FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Chernobyl Incident

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SOVIET UNION

IZVESTIYA on Work to Seal Stricken Reactor Site *[14 May]* ..... L 1
Moscow Describes Events Immediately After Accident ..... L 2
IZVESTIYA Cites Silayev; 'Disaster' Danger Now Past *[12 May]* ..... L 3
IZVESTIYA Cites Official on Cleanup Techniques *[13 May]* ..... L 5
SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Reports on Chernobyl Cleanup *[14 May]* ..... L 5
Academician Interviewed on Chernobyl Area Tasks ..... L 6
Scherbina Briefs W. Europe, U.S. Envoys on Chernobyl ..... L 7
Civil Aviation Ministry Coordinates Cleanup ..... L 8
Press Told Chernobyl Industries 'Working Normally' ..... L 8
Medics at Chernobyl 'Operating as Though in Combat' *[TRUD 9 May]* ..... L 8
Ukrainian Officials Brief Newsmen at 8 May Session *[IZVESTIYA 10 May]* ..... L 9
Medical Official Says 'Situation Has Stabilized' ..... L 10
Moscow on Conditions at Mirgorod Health Resort ..... L 11
IZVESTIYA Describes Facilities for Chernobyl Evacuees *[11 May]* ..... L 11
Placement of Chernobyl Workers Elsewhere in Progress ..... L 12
Party's, Military's Aid to Evacuees Praised *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 11 May]* ..... L 12
Area Children Receive Holiday Health Care ..... L 13
Activities at Ukrainian Sanatorium Reported ..... L 13
IAEA Thanks USSR for 'Readiness to Cooperate' *[PRAVDA 10 May]* ..... L 13
Blix to Swedish Paper: 'Satisfaction' With Visit ..... L 13
PRAVDA Carries Communique on IAEA Officials' Visit ..... L 14
TASS: Blix Criticizes Western Reporting on Chernobyl ..... L 14
Reportage, Analysis of Western Chernobyl Coverage ..... L 14
'Malicious' Campaign Abating ..... L 14
U.S. Exaggerates Incident *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 6 May]* ..... L 14
'Pack of Lies' ..... L 15
Paper on U.S. 'Malicious Reaction' *[IZVESTIYA 10 May]* ..... L 16
'Cacophonous Pandemonium' ..... L 16
'Red Menace' Stereotype Behind Propaganda ..... L 17
FRG Media Sow Panic Over Chernobyl *[PRAVDA 12 May]* ..... L 17
Western TV 'Led Up Garden Path' by Yugoslav Videotape ..... L 18
Embassy in FRG States USSR Safe for Tourists ..... L 18
Lithuanian Farmers Use Lasers To Level Fields ..... L 18

EASTERN EUROPE

BULGARIA

EEC Food Imports Ban from E. Europe Faulted ..... M 1
Further Criticism of EEC Ban ..... M 1

HUNGARY

Nationwide Radiation Levels Return to Normal ..... M 1

POLAND

Urban on U.S. Milk Aid, EEC Ban on Food ..... M 1
Measures To Protect Poles From Radiation Outlined ..... M 3

YUGOSLAVIA

Loncar Explains SFRY Protest to EEC in Assembly ..... M 3
SFRY Correspondent Reports on Visit to Region ..... M 4

WESTERN EUROPE

AUSTRIA

Health Ministry Projects Long-Term Chernobyl Impact *[NEUE AZ 13 May]* ..... N 1

BELGIUM

TASS: Martens Says Country at No Risk ..... N 1

FINLAND

Statement at UN Confirms No Radiation Risk *[TASS]* ..... N 1

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Bonn Counters USSR Embassy on 'Safe' Travel Areas ..... N 1
FDP Group Denies Western Anticommunist Campaign ..... N 1
Bangemann Says Farmers To Lose DM1 Billion ..... N 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

MALAYSIA

Nuclear Unit Monitoring Chernobyl Effects ..... O 1

NEW ZEALAND

Columnist Sees Chernobyl Supporting Labor Government *[THE EVENING POST 6 May]* ..... O 1

PHILIPPINES

Commission Says Chernobyl Fallout Not Health Hazard ..... O 3

QATAR

University Studies Show No 'Abnormal' Radiation *[WAKH]* ..... O 3

SAUDI ARABIA

Ministry Bans Food Imports From West Europe ..... O 3

TAIWAN

Premier Yu Seeks Chernobyl Report, Safety Assurance *[CHINA POST 9 May]* ..... O 3

WESTERN PACIFIC

AFP Sums Up Asian Reaction to Chernobyl Accident ..... O 3

IZVESTIYA on Work To Seal Stricken Reactor Site

PM131637 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
14 May 86 Morning Edition p 3

[Special correspondent A. Illesh Report: "Level of Intensity; *IZVESTIYA* Special Correspondent Reports From the Chernobyl AES Region"]

[Text] Kiev — The words "radiation level" appear often in reports from the accident region. This indicator determines the degree of danger associated with working in the zone. Today I want to talk about another level — the intensity felt by people eliminating the consequences of the 26 April accident.

It is busy alongside the building bearing the plaque "Chernobyl Ukrainian Communist Party Raykom" now housing the government commission headquarters. It would seem that the "uniform" of special suits, white caps, and respirators around most people's necks would bring people down to the same level and make them similar. Just try and recognize someone you know! But L.A. Ilin, vice president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, is immediately distinguiishable by his gestures, smiles, and readiness to engage in detailed conversation. The latest conference is over and the specialists are free for a short time and have gone outside.

"Here comes a hero," the chairman of the radiation defense commission said. "Let me introduce you to B.V. Gidaspov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences." "Don't exaggerate," the Leningrader and director of the State Institute of Applied Chemistry tried to "defend himself." "But to be serious, there have been considerable successes in our work," the scientist said. "We are working to decontaminate the AES site, the station itself, the buildings, and the soil. We are doing everything to ensure that people can return as soon as possible even to what are currently the most dangerous places.

"At the first stage," Boris Veniaminovich continued, "we are concentrating our main efforts on particularly contaminated areas: the reactor and everything alongside and around it. You know, people are mobilized not only physically but intellectually in a difficult situation. All their creative potential is geared to resolving a single task. That is clearly shown by the joint work by scientists from various 'departments.' " "At this most difficult time," V.A. Masol, chairman of the Ukrainian Gosplan, joined in the conversation, "all departmental obstacles and barriers are really being broken down. Here in Chernobyl decisions are being made quickly without any superfluous paper. The result of cooperation among 'informal groups,' " he greeted some people — a corresponding member, a general, and an engineer — exiting the building, "is extremely effective." "We started with the small things," Gidaspov continues, "and now, having tested our methods in the accident situation that emerged here in Chernobyl, we are covering 150-200 square meters a day with special decontaminating film. It is now also clear how we should proceed and what we should do." "The scientists' help and their contribution to the common cause is hard to overestimate," was how I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, started our conversation. His study is situated here on the second floor of the headquarters. "Later on I will talk about the work of the chemical workers. But to start with — other services. Have you noticed the number of vehicles and equipment crossing the 30 km zone?" "Of course. There are considerably fewer of them, in my opinion." "But the amount of loads reaching the AES site has sharply increased. How is that? By banning contaminated transportation from leaving the 'circle' we were pursuing the most important goal of minimizing the possible spread — on tires or truck bodies — of even low-level radioactivity. To that end three transshipment bases were created by the exits, where everything we needed was unloaded from 'clean' transportation. And loads intended for the site are unloaded onto internal transportation. There is a whole chain of transport at work." Ivan Stepanovich drew my attention to the highly detailed wall map. "Look," he pointed, "Here you can see yet another 'circle' around the 30-km zone ring. It is bigger than the first and, so to speak, shows the limits of our territory and the adjoining total radioactivity security territory. So it is here, on the edge of the 'big circle,' that the stores have been organized. We do not need to send vehicles on long trips, everything is at hand. Furthermore, quite a large railroad siding has been opened. This is an advantage both because of the volume of shipments and because it is considerably simpler to decontaminate rail cars in comparison with motor vehicles. Unlike the ribbed rubber of tires, their metal parts 'clean' more reliably and quickly. River transport has also been included in the work.

"You promised to tell us about the chemical specialists...." "As the scale of accident management work unfolded, there arose the problem of swiftly decontaminating the site. Otherwise it was impossible to work; the risk was high. Let me note by the way that all the strictest norms in terms of the length of time spent in the zone and the workload of people stationed there are being adhered to. So, the time of the chemical specialists came. As you already know, they are spreading a composite film which tightly covers the surface. After that, the radioactive dust and particles cannot penetrate into the soil or water.

"Altogether, the experimental work by scientists and the discoveries they have already made here, in the AES region, are considerable," I.S. Silayev went on. "Here is a graphic example. Through its representatives a Swedish firm offered us its services in delivering decontamination chemicals. They asked 18.5 dollars per kg. Today we have succeeded in organizing our own production of a similar liquid. And production is on the scale of 30 metric tons per day. It is easy to calculate how much currency has been saved. And the work progresses incomparably faster. Just imagine, though, the efforts that were demanded by this work of everyone who took part in it! The actual pace at which dangerous areas are being covered is 300,000 square meters every 24 hours. And we started at some 10,000 square meters...." It emerged that B.V. Gidaspov had inadvertently supplied the correspondent with outdated figures. Indeed, the pace of work is so fast that you cannot always keep up with it.

So there it is, the level of exertion! "We must under no circumstances flatter ourselves or exaggerate the achievements," I.S. Silayev emphasized. "Tomorrow, or in a week's time, everyone will have to do even more work, and everyone will have to make even greater efforts to carry it out." "What additional 'isolation' methods are being used at the AES?" "A method for pouring liquid glass has been developed. It is extremely promising for application on the roofs of buildings and installations: There

is no way water can wash off such a covering." "There have been many occasions to hear fears being expressed, fears caused by water. What I have in mind is rainfall...." "The sealing of the effluent drainage system was completed 13 May. Thus we can completely rule out the flow of rainwater from the station to Pripyat." "From your office window one can clearly see helicopters flying toward the station one after the other. What are the Mi-8 crews engaged on now?" "They are carrying lead pellets on their carrier arms and dropping them on the target. The task is to block off completely all the openings through which the emission of radioactivity in the atmosphere is even only theoretically possible. Instrument readings indicate that emission levels are systematically dropping." "Ivan Stepanovich, a few words about the helicopter pilots' contribution...." "Here are the figures: Today they dropped 70 metric tons of lead pellets. Out of 66 missions, 58 resulted in the load being dropped right on target." The conversation turned to immediate plans.

"We have embarked on the most complex underground work. We are preparing to sink a shaft and will place a strong 'cushion' beneath the reactor. One of the most important tasks now is to get underneath the reactor and start pumping liquid nitrogen so as to create yet another tight safety layer there. This is being tackled, in particular, by specialists from the USSR Ministry of Transport Construction. Let me repeat that there are very many jobs to be done, including some most important and urgent ones." "*IZVESTIYA*'s readers are asking about the ultimate appearance of the damaged No. 4 power unit at the AES." "The specialists have nicknamed their work the building of a 'sarcophagus.' Let us not simplify matters, though: It is not just a question of covering the reactor in concrete, encasing it completely — and that is all. This will not be just a 'sarcophagus,' but a most complex engineering structure, fully controlling its internal heat and releasing any excess." The time for talking came to an end. Moscow was on the line to Chernobyl, to the headquarters. I also had to hurry: Daylight — flying time — was running out. I returned to Kiev by helicopter. The day had seemed strenuous to the crew, just like to the scientists, engineers, departmental leaders, and everyone else who had been on duty at the AES area. An ordinary damage repair day — day 17.... The flight engineer moved the lead shield which is used when flying in the reactor area into a corner of the cargo bay, collected the lead aprons, and slammed the door.

A thunderstorm was raging on the approach to Kiev. It was the first thunderstorm this May.

Moscow Describes Events Immediately After Accident

LD131943 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1315 GMT 13 May 86

[Dispatch from Kiev by Correspondent Vladimir Zhukovskiy; from the "Yunost" program]

[Excerpt] The events at the Chernobyl AES have moved all Soviet people, not only because of what happened but also because of the courage shown and being shown in the disaster area by those whose lot it was to toil there; to toil and to struggle.

To toil and to struggle — this could well be the headline for the despatch we have just received on the telephone from Vladimir Zhukovskiy, our correspondent:

The Kiev region. the heart of the Ukraine — is beautiful now. The chestnut trees blossomed early, the lilac is fragrant, the acacia is coming out. Looking at nature's rites of spring, the calamity that suddenly struck the Chernobyl AES stands out in bolder relief.

Yunost correspondents were given an opportunity to visit the accident zone. We met with dozens of people, witnesses of the tragedy that took place in the town of the atomic power industry workers on 26 April at 0123 hours. We visited, as it were, the very outskirts of the zone itself. A real battle between people and the forces of nature has now been going on for more than 2 weeks at the edges of this zone. This is a clash that is being waged in accordance with plans, based on calculations by major scientists and experts, among whom are Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Academician Velikhov, vice president of the country's Academy of Sciences, Academician Legasov and others, it is a battle which finds it embodiment in the courage of people of whom — I am confident — we shall yet tell you.

One and one-half hours after what happened, Militia Major General Berdov, deputy minister of internal affairs of the Ukrainian SSR, responding to an emergency telephone call, arrived at the scene of the accident. He understood that a battle was beginning. It was then that he ordered that a log of battle operations be instituted, not unlike a log onboard a warship, and that everything that was happening at the AES and in the power workers' town be entered in it in strict consecutive order.

We have seen this log, with entries done in different handwriting. Later on this entry appeared in the log: The radiation has started. Neither General Berdov, nor hundreds of people at their work posts know about it at that time, and speaking frankly, nor did they think about it: they were saving their comrades and saving the station.

Neither these people, nor members of the government commission who arrived here several hours later, nor the best Soviet scientists could at that time know the causes of the accident and its consequences. Time was needed to understand what happened.

Several hours later, the situation at the station was under control. The operations staff, attached to the party gorkom and gorispolkom, issued the instruction to evacuate the inhabitants of the atomic power workers' settlement. Thousands of militia functionaries began thist most difficult operation. In all, 3 hours were needed for it.

This is what Militia Captain Oleg Kazakov, chief officer in charge of operations, wrote in his report: I wish to perform my service and civic duty in eliminating the onsequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES like a communist. On 29 April, before his relief at the duty post protecting the settlement of Pripyat was due to arrive, (Vladimir Pashko), expert criminologist, turned to the secretary of the party organization and notified him of his wish, as he put it, to be together with the

communists at this time in the foremost ranks, performing the most crucial tasks.

During the first 3 days, civilian militia employees sent about 20 of such declarations. It became necessary to close off the source of danger, to block it off, deluge it, and seal it off. This could only be done from the air — and the aviators' turn came. Courageous helicopter crews carried out hundreds of flights and, in incredibly difficult conditions the core of the fourth unit was sealed off by means of an enormous stopper, composed of sand and other materials, weighing in excess of 5,000 metric tons. And all this was dropped from helicopters. Dozens of helicopter pilots showed miracles of courage in this clash. Among them are: (Yakovlev), (Serebryakov), (Voytko), and (Pyshkovskiy). Military helicopters overfly the station several times a day even now.

Medical personnel joined the struggle to overcome the consequences of the accident right from the very first days of the Chernobyl disaster. The Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Health was among the first to receive the AES disaster alarm. Immediately, measures were taken to give medical aid to those affected and to check on the state of the environment. Not even an hour had passed and ambulances from Kiev and other towns were on their way speeding toward Chernobyl. Leading specialists from the Republican Ministry of Health Protection left for the accident zone.

More than 1,300 doctors, nurses, laboratory assistants, radiation monitoring personnel, 240 ambulances — this medical assault team is currently in action in the region of the Chernobyl AES.

Leading specialists from Moscow and Leningrad have arrived in Kiev for consultations and to help. Medical establishments in Kiev city and oblast have at their disposal all that is necessary to ensure medical examination and the needed treatment.

Jointly with other specialists, the medical personnel took under its control the state of the environment and the quality of food products. Almost half of the patients who found themselves in hospitals following the accident at the AES have now been discharged. Following careful examination and necessary treatment they are ready to go to work.

The situation in Pripyat, Chernobyl, and Kiev is normal. People are not only struggling with the formidable forces of the atom; they are also calmly working, resting, and marking holidays.

The red flag, this invariable companion of our holidays, was, just like everywhere else in the country on 9 May, the Day of Victory, hoisted on the building of the Chernobyl AES. It was hoisted by those who are on duty today. One can justly call it battle duty.

Yes, things are difficult now. work is underway, titanic, exhausting work — but these people, who have been through hard tests, who accomplish feats every minute, are already the winners.

IZVESTIYA Cites Silayev; 'Disaster' Danger Now Past

PM121314 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 May 86 Morning Edition p 3

[Special correspondent Andrey Illesh report: "Days of Concern and Alarm; *IZVESTIYA* Special Correspondent Reports from the Chernobyl AES Region"]

[Text] Kiev, 10 May — The State Motor Vehicle Inspectorate Administration official raised his stick and our editorial vehicle braked at the checkpoint on the highway leading to Kiev. There were trucks, refrigerated vehicles, and "Volgas" in the convoy alongside us... It is understandable: Giant cities have large traffic flows. Produce, industrial goods, and everything needed for Kiev's plants and factories are brought here. The echo of the Chernobyl accident should not hamper the businesslike rhythm of the life of the Ukrainian capital.

Our turn arrives. We drive up slowly to the specialists who are carrying out dosage checks of the vehicles and passengers. We get out of the car. The wheels and bodies of our "Zhigulis" do not cause "clicks" on examination and the instruments show that there is no radiation "contamination." But we too are examined. Primarily our footwear.

"It doesn't matter where you've been walking," smiled N. Psurtsev, chief of the oblast State Motor Vehicle Inspection Administration's second division, who was standing alongside and had just checked our documents.

"I've been reading your reports in *IZVESTIYA*," he said. But when we inquired about his work he replied: "I have to 'disappoint' you — there are no sensations in my sector. Transportation into Kiev is normal. But that doesn't mean we can give up. The situation calls for special vigilance." Own correspondent N. Baklanov, who has already filled more than one notebook, stepped on the gas. The straight road into Zhitomir receded into the distance.

In Makarovskiy Rayon, which is on the right-hand side of the road, intensive and doubly busy life is currently under way, as, incidentally, must be the case in other places. Evacuees from the 30-km zone have arrived and are being housed here.

"You can gauge the complexity of the situation just by the fact that our bakery has now doubled output — it's producing 24 metric tons of output per day," I. Kozhukhovskiy, chairman of Makarovskiy Rayispolkom, said. "Our neighbors' schedule has also gotten tighter. We have to foresee thousands of things, large and small, and manage to do everything — it is a question of people who have left their homes and have sharply changed the situation..." Everything necessary is being done. Here is the certificate given to our correspondent A. Dolenko by N. Stepanenko, first deputy chairman of Kiev Oblispolkom: "The evacuees — and there are currently almost 92,000 of them — have already been given free financial assistance. Some 2,000 sets of clothing, 1,500 sewn and 4,000 woolen articles — in all, goods worth R150,000 — have been issued free to the needy by the Kiev Oblispolkom Population Services Administration." And here are a few more figures which clearly illustrate both the prevailing situation and the way in which the various ministries

and departments are operating in this situation. As already reported in the press, trading organizations have been authorized to let evacuees have goods on credit without a down payment. For example, during the first week after the accident consumer cooperative stores alone "sold" R16,000 worth of goods to be paid for later. They helped the evacuees out with bedding, of which 16,400 sets were issued. Some people needed furniture. That, too, was supplied: 3,800 beds and folding beds, 3,500 mattresses, R62,000 worth of kitchen utensils, and 300 gas stoves complete with gas cylinders — all this is already being used by the settlers. The circumstances in which they found themselves made it necessary to pay particular attention to hygiene and cleanliness. They have been issued 8.5 million metric tons of detergents. In addition, consumer cooperatives have dispatched mobile stores to Polesskiy, Ivankovskiy, Borodyanskiy, and Makarovskiy Rayons.

The state is providing mothers with children with places at health centers, rest homes, and sanatoria free of charge, and Pioneer camps are also being used for this purpose. These facilities now accommodate more than 2,000 people...

But let us return to Makarov. The day we were there another group of people evacuated from the zone was being billeted. The rate is two settlers per household. Back in the rayispolkom we studied attentively the questionnaires specially printed for this purpose during the first days after the accident. Everything is taken into consideration on these questionnaires, which are filled in by the new arrivals: age, sex, former address, occupation, number of children... This kind of strict "bookkeeping" is essential. It is one of the levers which makes it possible eliminate the "stresses" which naturally occur in the conditions of an emergency evacuation. And in fact the order that reigns here is amazing. While we were there, the last paragraph of this special questionnaire was being filled in, stating where the evacuee was being billeted.

The party raykom and rayispolkom have set up a special center, V. Kostroma, first secretary of the Makarovskiy Ukrainian Communist Party Raykom, told us. It operates virtually around the clock. Every 24 hours its leaders are replaced; otherwise people could not cope. And it is important not just to cope, but to work well and efficiently! What is not done at the beginning will be most difficult to put right later. Everyone understands that the people who are arriving here are coming from a special area. Their concerns are most important. But we must not forget our own tasks either, spring will not wait. And the fall harvest will have to feed many more people than usual.

The tactics of soviet and party bodies' current work are to tackle the most prosaic but not necessarily the least important tasks. For example, 17,446 head of livestock came into Makarovskiy Rayon with the evacuees. The livestock have been housed at nine local kolkhozes. Yet they have to be not only milked but fed as well. So the soviet and party bodies are racking their brains wondering how to provide enough feed for the grown-up animals tomorrow...

Emergency construction of temporary cattle and sheep pens has begun. Existing ones are being overhauled. The new arrivals can be of great assistance here: There have never been spare hands in the countryside. New teams are being organized to do this work. Machine operator is hurrying to join up with machine operator, joiner with joiner, and milkmaid with milkmaid. The billeting of the new arrivals was cunningly organized: Chairmen were placed with kolkhoz chairmen, team leader was invited to live with team leader. So they will be able to agree quickly at home on the work they will be doing together. This means the work gets started earlier. And the job is already being done. The new arrivals are providing extra shifts at two local plants.

"Yes, we have commenced operations nearly everywhere," I. Kozhukhovskiy remarked. "We now have two farms, as it were, in every farm. Where space permits, we have sent tractors into the fields with a view to obtaining more feed. We are sowing extra corn and grass..."

What an effect visiting the "enlarged" villages had on us. Psychologically many of the new arrivals are not yet ready to settle down properly. Potatoes are being issued for planting — it is not too late to get started. But not everyone is in a hurry to set up his own truck garden.

"You are right," the raykom secretary confirmed. "The job is only half done so far. And paradoxical though it may seem, it is the easy part. The ordinary, peasant life, albeit a very busy life for everyone, lies ahead. And problems will crop up which we should be thinking about right now. Even welcome guests get to be a burden sometimes. It is a well-known fact: Two women in the kitchen spells trouble..."

Kostroma is right: Tomorrow's preoccupations and concerns are alread looming large. The way everything connected with the evacuation was efficiently handled (for example, full bulletins on the arrival of evacuees were issued hourly) is reassuring. It makes one believe that they will also cope with the new difficulties.

Every morning at exactly 0900 the experts give their verdict at the Kiev Gorispolkom: The radiation level in the city today is such-and-such, the amount of drinking water is such-and-such.

The city leaders are keeping representatives of scientific research institutes current with the Chernobyl AES accident situation. The most up-to-date scientific research institute equipment has now been switched from academic use to the area of the everyday needs of people in the city and the oblast.

It is not for nothing that we return to this in our reportage. Despite the fact that materials on atmospheric pollution have already been published, many *IZVESTIYA* readers are still concerned about the situation in the city. In short, it is a normal, working situation. Here is what specialists think about this.

"To speak of the trend," Professor M. Shandala told our correspondent S. Tsikora, "according to our graphs, the background radiation in Kiev will return to normal somewhere around 19 May. Of course, it is still higher than normal today, but it does not represent a dager to people." Let us "open" the reference book. Radiation (or emission) has been inherent on our planet from time immemorial, since before man appeared on it. Therefore, every one of us feels its influence on himself throughout his life. Naturally, this influence does not do us any

harm. An increased influence is a terrible enemy. The principle for assessing what is and what is not dangerous is the total radiation dose "absorbed" by a person in a year.

"The following norms for radiation safety are in effect in the USSR," the scientist continued. "For professionals working with radioactive substances the permitted annual dose is 5 roentgens. For those who do not work with such substances but live close to where they are produced, the dose is reduced tenfold and is equal to 0.5 roentgen a year. This applies to ordinary working and living conditions. In emergency situations — and they are always short-lived — different safety norms apply. But even these do not in any case go beyond doses which threaten people with any serious ailments — radiation sickness, for example.

"I will illustrate these points with reference to the recent situation in Kiev," the professor said. "The entire city has now been switched to the emergency situation normatives, and the permitted radiation dose ['planka' radiatsionnoy nagruzki] has been raised to 10 roentgens a year. So: Given the present level of radiation in the city, to obtain that dose every inhabitant of Kiev would have to be irradiated continuously for 2,000 days, that is, for more than 5 years! This is why all specialists claim with one voice that the present level of radiation in the city, even though it exceeds the normal background radiation, poses no threat to people's health." Of course, painstaking preventive measures are needed. This means that it is necessary to observe hygiene, prevent the buildup of dust indoors, wipe it away with a wet cloth, limit the time young children spend out of doors.... Announcements of this kind have now been carried on local television, and doctors are writing articles in the press.

The city of Chernobyl, 10 May. The AES is 18 km away. An offensive sets out from here with the purpose of neutralizing the center of radiation. And this is what has happened! I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers: "Today it is possible to speak firmly of a new stage in the work on liquidating the aftermath of the accident. The main danger has been removed, and it is possible to work calmly. The possibility of a disaster, about which Western mass media have been writing a great deal, is now ruled out. But, naturally, this does not mean that we can curtail all our activity. Great work lies ahead. One of the chief tasks is to carry out the total decontamination of the station and the adjacent locality."

Academician Ye.p. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences: "Indeed, theoretically until today there existed the possibility of a disaster — a large quantity of fuel and reactor graphite was in an incandescent state. This is not the case now. As already stated, specialists are faced with a very difficult task. They will set about decontaminating and encapsulating all radioactive substances. This will in turn guarantee against their getting into subsoil waters. But, for the time being, special work is being carried out inside the block under very difficult conditions of high radioactivity. Construction workers are doing a great deal now. They are freezing the soil and putting down a large quantity of concrete. The purpose of the actions is to 'bury' the damaged reactor."

IZVESTIYA Cites Official on Cleanup Techniques

WA131300 [Editorial Report] Moscow *IZVESTIYA* in Russian on 13 May 1986 in its Morning Edition prints at the bottom of page 3 a TASS photograph, 7.5 by 5.5 inches, of the Chernobyl AES site, a large arrow apparently indicating the area of damage. The following unattributed commentary is printed beneath the photograph: "At *IZVESTIYA*'s request the photograph is commented on by chief engineer B. Prushinskiy, first deputy chief of the "Soyuzatomenergo" All-Union Production Association, who has just returned from Chernobyl: "The power station's fourth unit, where the accident occurred, is in the center of the shot. The arrow points to the opening in the roof of the nuclear reactor. Sand, dolomite, lead, and other protective materials have been dropped from helicopters through it and into the building to reduce the radioactive discharge. Materials have now ceased to be dropped. It is now planned to enclose the damaged unit in a thick concrete casing. All the spaces beneath the unit will also be packed with concrete in order to completely isolate it from the soil. A special cooling system will also be built to prevent the temperature from rising inside the casing as a result of natural radioactive decay.

"The elongated section behind the fourth unit is the engine room, serving all the units. Next to the fourth, left of it, is the third unit. As you can see, it is completely undamaged. Further left toward the engine room is the second unit, only partly visible, and beyond that is the first unit, not on the picture. In the foreground you can see the liquid and solid waste storage facility and, next to the second unit, further toward us, the building housing laboratories and amenities. In the top right-hand corner of the photograph are the pylons for the high-voltage switchgear lines.

"Decontamination operations are currently being carried out at the station site. The outer surfaces of the buildings, starting with the roofs, are being washed, the waste water being directed into special channels and thence into decontamination installations. Similar operations will also be conducted in the settlement near the station. The topsoil is being removed in the danger zone, and the whole area will be concreted over. When this work has finished the Chernobyl AES will be operational again."

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Reports on Chernobyl Cleanup

PM131608 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 May 86 First Edition

[Report by TASS correspondents V. Zhukovskiy, V. Itkin, and L. Chernenko under the rubric "TASS Correspondents Report from Chernobyl Specially for *SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA*": "The Headquarters Acts"]

[Text] Kiev Oblast — The helicopter came straight in to land, without taking aim. A familiar spot. It has taken off many times from here, close to Chernobyl, and set course for the AES. There have been crew changes, but the machine has worked faultlessly, obediently fulfilling the will of courageous people. It was in such an "experienced" helicopter that we arrived at Chernobyl, or, as people here say, at the "zone." You can get there only with special passes. It is just over 15 km in a straight line from Chernobyl to the station. TASS special correspondents and a

Central Television team were permitted to view the city and attend a session of the government commission.

Chernobyl is beautiful: graceful streets, fresh greenery, flower beds. And clean. Dozens of sprinkler machines are continuously washing and swabbing — this word suggests itself — its roads, streets, and squares. Not a speck of dirt or dust. In the situation which has taken shape here now, after the accident, it is precisely dust that represents one of the chief dangers.

The headquarters — the government commission — imparts the rhythm, pace, and mood to everything that happens here. It is possible to say without exaggeration that the volume of work is huge. In addition to very complex technical problems, it is necessary to solve questions associated with the human factor — and solve them without the right to make a mistake. Communications are operating at full capacity. Moscow, Kiev, the regions which have taken evacuees, and the headquarters, sited at the nuclear station itself, keep in constant contact.

"I can tell you," I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, told journalists, "that at this session we reached the conclusion that the chief, basic danger has been removed. The disaster at Chernobyl forecast by certain Western newspapers will not happen. Today we have the right to speak firmly of a new stage in the work to liquidate the aftermath of the accident. It is possible to act calmly. But this, of course, does not mean that the time has come to cut back all our activity. Great work lies ahead. One of the chief tasks is to carry out the full decontamination of the station and the adjacent locality." The headquarters is drawing up the strategy and the tactics of the struggle aimed at eliminating the aftermath of the accident, very important decisions are being adopted, and intense collective work is being done, in which prominent leaders and eminent specialists and scientists are participating. They include Ye.P. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The academician called today a turning point.

"Hitherto a large quantity of fuel and reactor graphite had been in an incandescent state," he pointed out. "Of course, this was of concern. The temperature has now fallen, and a new stage of the struggle lies ahead. As already stated, specialists are faced with carrying out a difficult new task. They will set about decontaminating and encapsulating all radioactive substances.

"It is necessary to carry out a whole series of measurements and investigations and determine the most polluted places. All this is being done under exceptionally difficult conditions. Radioactivity remains high within the reactor unit. But the work there must not be suspended. It is being carried out. The foundations beneath the reactor are being additionally strengthened. Construction workers are putting concrete under it."

"In certain places it was necessary to freeze the soil. When the entire package of these measures has been carried out, we will sum up the investigations, and a decision will be adopted on resuming the work of the Chernobyl AES. Within a certain time dictated by safety norms the station will be rehabilitated and will start generating current. Of course, there will be no fourth reactor unit. It is planned to liquidate and bury it, observing the same safety measures as is done with other radioactive waste."

"Are things difficult?" we asked Yevgeniy Pavlovich.

"I will say this: For those who have remained here it is just a job. In Chernobyl today we have the people we need — courageous, skilled, choice people. We talked with one of the active participants in the Chernobyl epic — Yevgeniy Ivanovich Ignatenko, deputy chief of the "Soyuzatomenergo" Association. At the headquarters we noticed him at once — tall, broad-shouldered, open-faced, kind of big and strong. This expression is current here: "How much have you caught?" Well, Ignatenko has "caught" a lot — several tens of roentgen. But he is a specialist in this matter and knows perfectly well the permissible norms.

"Nothing terrible," he said confidently. "There are people with more. No way can I go away from here. I am needed here. There is such a concept as need. And it is the best medicine for all diseases." Ignatenko has been at the station since 26 April. He was one of the first to give the commission a technical picture of the state of the devastated reactor unit and to determine the radiation situation...

Specialists here are acting with fortitude and courage. Vladimir Konstantinovich Bronnikov, chief engineer of the Minsk Nuclear Heat and Electric Power Station; Eduard Saakovich Saakov, chief engineer of one of the associations of the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification; Taras Grigoryevich Plokhiy, former deputy chief engineer of the Chernobyl AES and now one of the leaders of the Balakovo Nuclear Station. And Ignatenko himself. It was they who organized the draining of the water which had formed as a result of the accident beneath the reactor. People in protective drysuits descended into the radioactive zone. (Only after this did other work begin). Amazing, really heroic people. And there are very many of them here.

Life will win the day. For the black-and-white stork standing by its nest on the roof of one of the abandoned houses is waiting and waiting for people. There will be people, flowers, and weddings in Chernobyl.

Academician Interviewed on Chernobyl Area Tasks

LD132228 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 13 May 86

["Our special correspondents" A. Krutov and Ye. Shmatrikov report from Chernobyl AES "area"; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The rate of work in eliminating the consequences of the accident rises daily. From the first light of day to late in the evening, unloading of vessels proceeds at Chernobyl's river port. There are more and more vehicles on the Chernobyl-Pripyat road. People, concrete, sand, gravel and other construction materials are carried in shuttle trips. [video shows cranes unloading vessels on river; shot of truck by large pile of sand; brief shot of truck speeding along road followed by three tanker trucks; shot of sign indicating boundary of Chernobyl]

The level of radiation in Chernobyl — this is 18 km from the AES — is not threatening the lives and health of those working here. However, all precautionary measures are being observed.

[video shows shots taken from moving vehicle showing parked (?concrete) truck; groups of workers at roadside; workers standing, dressed in blue overalls, all with caps or hats, most sporting face mask hanging round neck]

The houses, shops and schools await the return of their occupants. It is difficult to say when this will be, but there is every ground to hope that this will definitely happen. [video shows shots of an apartment block, focusing on doll in bridal gown left standing by a window]

One of the main tasks is being resolved by the chemists. Active decontamination of the soil, buildings and structures is underway, particularly in those place where emissions were particularly strong. This is basically near the station's fourth unit. You can understand for yourselves that we can't show you any closer to this place, but believe me, the rates of work are high. [vide shows helicopter in flight; aerial views from a distance of the Chernobyl nuclear complex, including brief shot of what is presumably the damaged unit; video switches to show unidentified correspondent speaking to B.V. Gidaspov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciencies standing on tree-lined road in front of unspecified building]

[Gidaspov] In general we have established a unique collective here; this temporary collective is very unusual. It includes party workers, local soviet workers, ministers, top-rank leaders of the defense ministry, and scientists with most diverse specializations. To be honest, when I was invited here for brief consultations I did not imagine that I would meet what is for me such an unusual spectrum of scientific problems. Here we have had to find commonplace [trivialnyy] or simple ways out of very complex situations because we simply did not have the time required for profound study [words indistinct]. However, the problems of decontaminating the soil and the area [territoriya], on which the fate of many tens of thousands of people who have temporarily moved from these localities is, in general, dependent, has touched us deeply, and we have spared no efforts. and by the united labor of these many collective — and of course with the widespread creative participation of workers and engineers — we have managed in a short space of time, in difficult field conditions, to organize the production of the necessary chemical materials with which we can now cover and decontaminate an area of 150,000 - 200,000 square meters.

Our task is not ending, it is only beginning. It will develop in quantative terms, and there is no doubt that it should also have new qualitative shifts.

[Correspondent] In such a difficult, tense and extreme situation, simple solutions are being found, and when the situation is calm...

[Gidaspov interrupts] Well, you answered the question. Solutions come when life requires them of you; when there is exertion of all inner forces some sort of new resources are found, and man is then capable of resolving considerably more than in a calm office environment. [video shows Gidaspov turning to exchange words with man in brown overall, with face mask round his neck] Well, (Georgiy Artemovich), how much sleep are we getting? About 2-3 hours per day, but nobody wants to sleep. And what pleases me very much is that we haven't written a single report, we haven't signed a single technical decision. We resolve everything on the telephone, in personal contacts. And this itself makes it possible to work quickly, efficiently, and I hope qualitatively too.

[Correspondent] How do you assess the future prospects?

[Gidaspov] I think that in general, events are developing normally. They should not be hurried. A very great deal of work is still in prospect. What is most important is that we are controlling the situation and we can picture how we must proceed to resolve the problems.

Scherbina Briefs W. Europe, U.S. Envoys on Chernobyl

LD131133 Moscow TASS in English 1112 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 13 TASS — Boris Scherbina, a deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, had a meeting today with the ambassadors of Britain, Spain, Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Turkey and the Federal Republic of Germany, the charges d'affaires ad interim of Austria, Denmark, Luxembourg and France and representatives of the U.S. Embassy accredited in the Soviet Union.

Taking part in the meeting were Andranik Petrosyants, chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for the Use of Atomic Energy, Yevgeniy Vorobyev, a first deputy minister of public health of the USSR, Yuriy Sedunov, a first deputy chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Hydrometeorology and Monitoring of the Environment, and Vladimir Petrovskiy, a member of the collegium of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR.

The ambassadors were given detailed explanations on issues connected with the situation at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. They were informed of measures being taken to nullify the consequences of the accident and the radiation situation in the territory of the Ukraine and Belorussia and on the western borders of the USSR. The diplomats were briefed on measures to decontaminate the zone of the station and transport communications. They received answers to all their questions.

Ambassadors Sandor Rajnai of Hungary, Kwon Hui-kyong of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Tserengiyn Gurbadam of Mongolia, Wlodimierz Natorf of Poland and Traian Dudas of Romania, charges d'affaires ad interim Nguyen Van Quang of Vietnam, S. Koerner of the German Democratic Republic and S. Soukhaseum of Laos and the councillor-envoys Luis Felipe Vazques of the Embassy of Cuba, M. Jotov of the Embassy of Bulgaria and Z. Cerny of the Embassy of Czechoslovakia were received in the Foreign Ministry of the USSR today.

In addition to data regularly provided by competent Soviet organizations to corresponding institutions in these countries, V.P. Loginov, a deputy foreign minister of the USSR, gave the participants in the meeting detailed information about the state of things and measures being taken to nullify the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station.

Taking part in the conversation were N.P. Kozlov, a deputy

chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Hydrometeorology and Monitoring of the Environment, and B.A. Semenov, a deputy chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for the Utilisation of Atomic Energy.

Civil Aviation Ministry Coordinates Cleanup

LD132016 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 13 May 86

[Correspondent Vladimir Mikhaylenko report from the Central Contollers Office of Civil Aviation; city not specified on 13 May — recorded]

[Text] [Mikhaylenko] For 17 days now the Central Controllers Office of Civil Aviation has been operation in a state of tension. As well as the day-to-day routine work of Aeroflot there has been special concern about Chernobyl. For 17 days all the requests have been streaming in here to the control office for the transfer of specialists and special cargoes required for the liquidation of the consequences of the accident at the nuclear power station.

Leading staff of the ministry are constantly on duty here at the present time in the Central Controllers Office. At our microphone is Nikolay Vasiliyevich (Khlomots) head of the main directorate of aviation operations and transportation.

Nikolay Vasiliyevich, what are the main worries for Aeroflot at this time?

[(Khlomots)] From the very first hours following the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, Aeroflot began fulfilling urgent tasks. Civil aviation planes were sent out to pick up those who were affected, and transportation was then begun according to the task of the government commission for delivering specialists, equipment, and special technology designated or the elimination of the consequences of the accident.

[Mikhaylenko] How is all this work being coordinated; I see that the situation has been tense so far?

[(Khlomots)] On the very first day a special headquarters was set up at the ministry headed by a first deputy minister, to coordinate work. Immediate control is being carried out by the minister of civil aviation. The work is being carried out precisely, without the slightest delay and according to a strictly planned schedule. A specially formed unit made up of aircraft and helicopters, which are fulfilling the tasks of the state commission, is operating directly in the Chernobyl area.

It must be noted that the Aeroflot crews participating in this work are constantly showing examples of labor heroism. In other words, it may be said that people are giving their all. These include Anatoliy Vladimirovich (Vetlichko), Comrade Aleksandr Grigoriyevich (Nosenko), Oleg Ivanovich (Zamatalov) commanders of air craft [komandiry vozdushnykh sudov], and many others.

[Mikhaylenko] It now looks as though the chief of the Central Production-Control Department of Civil Aviation, Andrey Konstantinovich Andreyev, is free. Andrey Konstantinovich, what has today been like?

[Andreyev] Today, like previous days, all the freight required to eliminate the consequences of the accident at Cernobyl AES is being delivered by Civil Aviation aircraft in the shortest possible time. Three flights have already been carried out today, and the traffic of the remaining aircraft is under the control of the central controllers.

Press Told Chernobyl Industries 'Working Normally'

LD122012 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1915 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] A group of Communist Party paper correpondents from Austria, Great Britain, Belgium, West Berlin, Israel, Italy, Canada, Luxembourg, the United States, the FRG, Finland, Sweden, France and Japan are visiting the Ukrainian capital. They have arrived to learn about the progress in eliminating the results of the Chernobyl AES accident. The guests visited the obkom, where Revenko, first secretary of the Kiev Obkom described how the evacuation from the danger zone was carried out, and what is being done now in the sphere of settling the evacuees, providing services, and [word indistinct]. He informed them about the situation in the 30 km zone of the AES: Thanks to the efforts of party, soviet and economic bodies, all industries and services of the national economy are working normally. One can see good organization and efforts to eliminate the results of the accident everywhere.

Revenko, first secretary of the Kiev party obkom and (Martynyuk), second secretary of the Kiev Obkom answered journalists' questions.

The representatives of the Communist press also visited the Soviet Rayon of the Kiev Oblast, where they met representatives of party and soviet bodies and visited a sovkhoz and its vocational college.

Medics at Chernobyl 'Operating as Though in Combat'

PM130936 Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 May 86 p 4

[Report by TASS special correspondents V. Zhukovskiy, V. Itkin, and L. Chernenko: "Medics in the Chernobyl AES Area Are Operating as Though in Combat"]

[Text] Vitaliy Alekseyevich Melnichenko, chief doctor at the Lesnaya Polyana Health Clinic, had not slept for 2 days. The clinic had received a reserve group of workers from the Chernobyl AES for a rest. The emergency actions and the evacuation of families had, of course, all affected people's condition. It was therefore necessary to create all the conditions necessary for them to feel at home — that was the task that the chief doctor had set the medical personnel. Round-the-clock duty was instituted for the medical teams, and the workload of the laboratory, which has to carry out dozens of blood analyses, was also stepped up.

That was how Lesnaya Polya greeted those who will soon have to continue their vigil at the Chernobyl AES. Although the reactors have been shut down, essential operating procedures

[nuzhnyy rezhim] have to be maintained. The people who have been entrusted with this responsible work must be in good shape. And the doctors are taking care of that.

"The results of the examinations show that our patients are perfectly healthy and will be able to start work after a rest," the chief doctor believes. The radiation monitor has become a familiar figure in the avenues of the clinic. The radiation "patrol" closely monitors the state of the air and soil. This new specialist field has also been mastered by the medics.

Vasiliy Korchevskiy, a young paramedic at the Teterevskaya Hospital, has, for example, swapped his stethoscope for the headphones of a radiation monitoring instrument. He is aware of the special responsibility of his mission and carefully "listens to" his patients, accurately sifting the slightest deviations out from the background. It is not, of course, a pleasant sensation when you are probed by the instrument or when a slight crackling in the headphones is heard and the needle flickers scarcely perceptibly. We discovered this for ourselves when we were checked out! "The health services in Vasilkovskiy Rayon, for example, have set up radiation posts. They monitor the state of the air and soil. The output of the local dairy combine is double-checked. The work of the medics at the Vasilkovskiy Rayon polyclinic has also increased. Preventive examinations of people evacuated from the danger zone are being carried out there," Vladimir Petrovich Poluneyev, chief doctor at the polyclinic said. "Doctors from other oblasts are helping us examine and carry out medical observation of them. The medics are now operating as though in combat.

"The medical task force working in the Chernobyl AES area consists of more than 1,300 doctors, nurses, laboratory workers, and radiation monitors and 240 ambulances," Ukrainian SSR Deputy Health Minister A. N. Zelinskiy said. He had a report on the accommodation of the evacuated population. "The village of Peskovka, for example. It has received more than 2,000 people from the danger zone. We have sent 12 medical teams from other oblasts to help local medics treat them.

"The Ukrainian SSR Health Ministry constantly receives requests to be sent to the Chernobyl AES area," the deputy minister continued. "Many medical workers joined in the fight to eliminate the consequences of the accident at the very outset of the emergency. The Ukrainian SSR Health Ministry was one of the first to be alerted to the calamity at the AES. Measures were taken straightaway to provide immediate medical assistance to the victims and monitor the environment. Within an hour ambulances were speeding toward Kiev and other cities. Leading specialists of the Republic's health ministry headed for the accident area."

Radiation monitors measured the level of radiation and doctors examined patients at the station itself. Those who were in need of emergency assistance were hospitalized. They were admitted by the Kiev Oblast Hospital and other specialist clinics in the Ukrainian capital. The most seriously affected workers at the AES and firemen were airlifted to specialist clinics of the USSR Health Ministry in Moscow.

Leading specialists from Moscow and Leningrad arrived in Kiev to give advice and help. These included L. Ilin, vice president and academician of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, Professors L. Romanov, Ye. Gogin, V. Kharitonov, O. Pavlovskiy, and others. Kiev city and oblast medical establishments have all the requisite medications at their disposal.

Large-scale health education work is being carried out. Ukrainian SSR Health Minister A. Romanenko has appeared on Ukrainian television and radio to describe the preventive measures necessary in the prevailing situation.

Almost half the patients admitted to hospitals after the accident at the AES have already been discharged. Through the efforts of doctors people are recovering their health and through the efforts of party and Soviet workers and various specialists life is returning to normal in the Chernobyl area.

Ukrainian Officials Brief Newsmen at 8 May Session

PM091555 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 May 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Report by special correspondent Andrey Illesh: "Situation Normalizing. Meeting With Journalists in Kiev"]

[Text] What is happening in Chernobyl? This question was posed in various ways by foreign correspondents at an 8 May meeting at the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers. A group of journalists from various countries accredited in Moscow had come to Kiev. The meeting was opened by Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers Chairman A.P. Lyashko. It was also attended by Yu.A. Izrael, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control; L.A. Ilin, vice president of the Academy of Medical Sciences, and other scientists and specialists.

"The temperature in the fourth unit's reactor has fallen to 300 degrees," A.P. Lyashko said. "This means that the graphite in the reactor has stopped burning and the radiation is tending steadily to reduce." A.P. Lyashko talked in detail about the evacuation of people from the power workers' city and 30-kilometer zone, about the assistance the state has given and is giving to people, and about the work of the 230 teams of medics who have arrived from all over the Republic. "The entire population has been checked by medics," A.P. Lyashko said, "and people needing treatment have been hospitalized.

"The Kiev reservoir is the city's main drinking 'cup.' Immediately after the accident checkpoints were set up along the length of the reservoir and on the Pripyat River itself. The results of their analyses, made every hour, show that there is no danger." Monitoring of the condition of the air and the soil was, of course, established. A cordon has been thrown around the 30-kilometer zone and checkpoints are operating. The only people inside the zone are those engaged in eliminating the breakdown and its consequences and people keeping the first, second, and third AES [Atomic Energy Station] units in proper condition. These units have not been affected and are ready to start up.

"Human genius has placed the atom at man's service," A.P. Lyashko continued. "AES's are being built all over the world.

Some 41 units are already operating in the USSR, 10 in the Ukraine. Others are being erected. Note that the fifth unit has been under construction at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station. For obvious reasons, construction has been suspended, but I am sure that the process of building nuclear power stations will continue. Mankind is using up too many nonrenewable forms of energy. The future belongs to nuclear power. But, certainly, lessons must be learned — very serious ones too — from the accident and the ensuing calamity. It is to this end that the major Soviet scientists and specialists in the government's commission are working today."

Asked about the protection of the health of people working at present to eliminate the breakdown, L.A. Ilin, vice president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, answered: "The monitoring norms and regulations used in our country are virtually no different from those used by the IAEA," he said. "Hence the regulations covering exposure doses for all who are presently in the zone — and I have arrived in Kiev from the AES area and can state this with utmost responsibility — are being fully observed. These measures rule out any exposure in excess of 25 roentgens, the dose established worldwide for this type of accident work. The word of medical scientists in this type of work is the final one and, in fact, the only one. People exposed to such a dose cannot take part in work in the danger zone for a period of 1 year."

Foreign journalists wanted to know about the radiation situation in the Ukrainian capital. Explanations were supplied by Yu.A. Izrael, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control.

"The small particles of burned graphite released during the accident carried a dose — albeit a small one — of radiation. These particles spread over a certain distance. This is the situation which determined the evacuation of people. Even though, of course, these radioactive particles could not, even theoretically, have spread over the entire are of the 30-km zone. As far as Kiev is concerned, the monitoring here is, of course, particularly thorough. I can set all your minds at rest: The radiation level in the city today does not exceed 0.35-0.4 milliroentgens per hour. This poses absolutely no danger for the population's health. Let me mention a few other cities where background radiation has increased in connection with atmospheric pollution. For example, the radiation level in the Belorussian SSR today stands at 0.3 milliroentgens per hour in the city of Gomel and at 0.5 milliroentgens per hour in Zhlobin.

"People may ask: To what can we compare this? When a patient's teeth or, let us say, his stomach, are x-rayed, he is exposed to a dose of up to 1 roentgen. So, judge for yourselves." Journalists were told that the population will return to their places of residence only when the decontamination of soil and all housing and public buildings is fully completed. It was said that 8,000 foreign students are studying in Kiev, and 8 of them have left the city. This fact is evidence of the normal situation prevailing in Kiev today.

Medical Official Says 'Situation Has Stabilized'

LD101657 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 10 May 86

[Interview with USSR Academy of Medical Sciences Vice President Leonid Andreyevich Ilyin by an unidentified correspondent; date, place not given; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Ilyin] The situation has stabilized and is steadily improving. Very intensive work is currently being carried out in the station's operational area [promploshchadka] to eliminate the consequences of the accident, and decontamination work is being carried out at the station on a very large scale. I must say that the staff working at the station, the people taking part in eliminating the consequences of the accident in the operational area, are undergoing thorough radiation monitoring. The level of exposure is regulated very accurately, and in this respect, as I see it, medical supervision is being conducted with great care and quality.

The situation in Kiev Oblast also is steadily improving. For example, compared to yesterday [date not specified], today's rate of gamma-radiation dosage — it is true, naturally, that it's in small quantities in Kiev — has dropped by a factor of two, and, of course, this dose does not present any danger.

I must say that much work is being carried out by the medics as well by the specialists working in the field of radiation monitoring in those places to which the population has been evacuated from the 30-km zone around the Chernobyl atomic electrical power station.

[Correspondent] What can you say about the monitoring of water and foodstuffs?

[Ilyin] Monitoring is being carried out regularly. Let us say that monitoring of the water in the Kiev water reservoir is being carried out several times throughout the day, and the situation in this respect is safe according to the analysis now at our disposal.

[Correspondent] What can you say about the work of the other services engaged in eliminating the accident?

[Ilyin] It is with a feeling of pride in our people that we can state today that people are carrying out the work without consideration for time and under very great pressure. I must say that this pressure, of course, is justified, because a very great job is being done. It is essential that we localize and eliminate the consequences of this accident as quickly as possible.

It must be said that the situation in Kiev is calm and people are at work. A very important point is that we are all convinced of the effectiveness of the enormous measures being taken both by people working on eliminating the accident and literally of all the services brought into action to tackle the very complex problems. Of course, one must not oversimplify the situation. There is still a great deal of work to be done, and this is quite natural. I express my unequivocal hope that the situation will, in general, become sufficiently calm in the near future... [interview ends in midsentence]

Moscow on Conditions at Mirgorod Health Resort

WA131101 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1800 GMT on 12 May carries a 1-minute Vitaliy Pidchenko report from Mirgorod health resort. He first describes the spring flowers and blossom, and says that people coming to the four health homes will enjoy the pleasant climate and excursions on the Khorol River. He goes on to say: "Of course, you know about the incident at Chernobyl AES, which is about 300 km from here. The press of Western countries claims that everything here is scorched with radiation and that nothing living is left," to which an unidentified woman replies: "We are fine here; the waters are excellent, the climate is doing us good, the birch grove here is lovely, and the nightingales are singing."

Pidchenko continues his report by saying: "The Khorol River is linked with the Pripyat, which flows through the Chernobyl region, so naturally, precautionary measures are being taken. Health service posts have been set up to check the level of radiation of the water day and night." He then asks a health service post official, Dr Nikolay Vasilyevich Alefir, to comment on the situation. Alefir says: "The instrument readings show that the radiation levels do not exceed the permissible danger levels; there is practically no danger to people vacationing or using the river." Pidchenko ends his report by pointing out that about 60,000 people will rest and restore their health here this year.

IZVESTIYA Describes Facilities for Chernobyl Evacuees

PM131230 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 May 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Special Correspondent Andrey Illesh report: "The Shift Sets Off for the Reactors"]

[Text] Kiev Oblast — It is bright and sunny here now. Kiev and its suburbs, often praised for their special spring beauty, are really charming. And thoughts about the danger lurking within the nuclear reactor in nearby Chernobyl are completely out of place in all this splendor.

I have sent dispatches to the editorial office from places where the elements were in turmoil — scenes of floods, fires, and earthquakes. But in the Far Eastern taiga enveloped in flames and in villages shattered by earthquake high in the Pamir mountains the disaster was clearly visible and its traces were there to see. There are no outward signs of the accident at the Chernobyl AES. Even the pilots now working in the zone speak about the normal "picture." There are probably fewer people within the exclusion zone, although there are vehicles on the roads. They are hurrying toward the same point — the power industry workers' town of Pripyat, which now houses the headquarters for eliminating the aftereffects of the accident.

As we have already reported, 150 people are on duty at the station's power units. The fictions that the AES is deserted remain just fiction. Readers of the oblast newspaper *KIYIVSKA PRAVDA* have been able to see for themselves the correctness of these words by viewing the photreportages about the people who are still working at the AES.

The "Skazochnyy" Young Pioneers camp is located 28 km from the station. It has now become the operational workers' base. Although they will only be living here for a short time life is following a normal, well-established course: There is a canteen, a postal section, medical assistance, and every other essential service available here.

"People have the time and, the main thing, the inclination to play chess, read newspapers, and talk peacefully with their friends and colleagues in the difficult and dangerous work," our Kiev correspondent N. Baklanov said. "It is natural that in the breaks between shifts their thoughts should be occupied with the matter that is worrying us all: How to eliminate the after-effects of the accident?" "We are fighting for the station's existence," V. Klepikov, chief of a shift at the No. 1 turbine shop, said. "We are monitoring the condition of the equipment of the first three reactors. Our shift was the first to go on duty after the accident. We are continuing work now. We are living and working in unusual conditions but according to the normal routine: We have the statutory days off and shift changes. The accident at the fourth power unit did not affect the first three. They have stopped but they need to be serviced, of course. We are carrying out that task, too." After a silence he added: "I am confident that the AES will survive. We will not abandon it! Nor will we abandon our home town. Many of the power workers whom we met during these extraordinarily tense days think think the same way." "There are only male volunteers working at the station now," V. Kholosha, deputy secretary of the AES party committee, said. "No one wanted to go on leave even though the opportunity was immediately offered to those who wanted it." *IZVESTIYA* has reported in detail about the evacuation from the 30 km zone surrounding the station. The families of those working at the AES were also moved out. How are the fathers and husbands faring — this question is now naturally of interest to the power workers who have left the cities of Pripyat and Chernobyl. To maintain links between members of families a special postal "section" has been set up here at the Young Pioneers' camp. It is run by postal communications operator Valentina Dmitriyevna Zhukova.

"I receive correspondence from the Polesskoye section. Consequently everyone who is sent to work at the reactors has an interest in this service." Zhukova sees the impatience of those waiting for letters here. The evacuation occurred at a time when some of the AES service personnel were at their work stations.

Thus not everyone at "Skazochnyy" knows yet where their families have gone or how they have settled in at their new location. Zhukova received a telegram which read: "Help me find my family!" Replies to these messages are greeted with particular feeling. Yes, Valentina Dmitriyevna is a very popular person here: Families are "reunited" and contacts between relatives are restored through here.

...A bus came into the camp nestling among the pine trees. The next shift is going on that bus and after by special transport to work at the AES. According to the latest figures, the radiation level in the station's service buildings is falling all the time.

Placement of Chernobyl Workers Elsewhere in Progress
LD132014 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 13 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The Novovoronezhskaya AES has been standing on the banks of the Don for more than 20 years. It operates in a reliable and steady way. [video shows ground-level external shots of powerplant, pylons, cooling towwers] At present, there is a routine, planned, but complicated operation in progress: refuelling the largest power unit, which has a capacity of 1 million kw. Since August last year it has been registered as meeting with International Atomic Energy Association [IAEA] standards. [video shows brief clip of indoor meeting of officials, followed by outdoor interview with man identified by caption as station director V.A. Zverev]

[Zverev] At present, IAEA inspectors are inspecting and taking part in the process of refuelling the reactor.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are there any adverse observations?

[Zverev] No, no adverse observations. The work is proceeding normally. Well, at present, employees from the Chernobyl station are coming to us here at Novovoronezhskaya AES. We are accepting them, fixing them up with work, and supplying them with everything needed for their families to lead a normal life. [video shows clips of family groups near apartment block]

[Correspondent] The job of nuclear power engineering worker is still a rather rare one, requiring special knowledge and skills. For this reason, the Novovoronezhskaya workers are temporarily accepting their labor comrades into their ranks. [video shows interview with man identified on captain as worker Ivchenko]

[Ivchenko] When we arrived here at Novovoronezhskaya they received us pretty well; we were taken to the job placement department, where they said we would be fixed up in no time at all.

[Correspondent] And today?

[Ivchenko] Today we shall finish our medical checks, and in the next 2 days we shall be on the job.

[Correspondent] What job will you be doing?

[Ivchenko] The same job I was doing at Chernobyl. (?Everything is O.K.)

[Correspondent] And how do you feel?

[Ivchenko] Fine.

[Correspondent] Children adapt to a new place more quickly than anyone. They have already been to kindergarten. School has started for them. And in their mark-books the first 5's have already been scored. [video shows children playing in sand-pit, mothers and children walking near school, street scene]

Party's, Military's Aid to Evacuees Praised
PM131106 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[Report by own correspondent Colonel A. Polyakov: "Conscientiousness, Courage, and Fortitude; From the Chernobyl AES Area"]

[Text] The fact that Soviet Armed Forces servicemen are taking part in the work to eliminate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES graphically shows the inviolable unity of the Army and the people and the fusion of the thoughts and aspirations of the motherland's armed defenders with the affairs and concerns of urban and rural working people. This thought was expressed to me in conversation by Major General B. Sharikov, first deputy chief of the Red Banner Kiev Military District Political Directorate.

"Servicemen are operating efficiently and selflessly and are showing great conscientiousness, fortitude, and courage," he said. "Communists and Komsomol members are setting an example..." Yes, it is always the same, when things are difficult Communists and Komsomol members set an example. Senior Lieutenant and Communist A. Berdyugin has only a few years of service to his credit. But he has fitted a good deal into those years. Aleksandr discharged with honor and dignity his patriotic and international duty as part of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and was awarded the "For Valor" medal. He is now a Komsomol worker and when, on his arrival in the AES area, he was asked to take charge of work in a crucial sector, he coped with it successfully.

Senior Lieutenant and Communist S. Bryankin is a company commander. The company has an excellent rating. And as befits excellent-rated men, his subordinates resolve all the tasks confronting them to a high standard.

I have recently heard many warm words about the servicemen from people of various ages and professions. And I will be frank: The words filled me with a sense of pride. They were not just praise of particular servicemen but a manifestation of Soviet people's love for the defenders of the motherland — the heirs of the heroic traditions of the older generations.

Borodyanka settlement is the administrative center of the rayon northwest of Kiev to which hundreds of families from Chernobyl have been moved. On the morning of 9 May our car was stopped at the militia post at the entrance to the settlement's main street and diverted. The reason for this enforced maneuver was that a festive demonstration was being held in the center of the settlement.

"Today's victory holiday will be specially memorable for us," Party Raykom Secretary T. Ugnivenko said. "The local residents are marching shoulder to shoulder in the Victory Day parade with those who have been temporarily moved here from the accident area. You know, they have only been here with us a few days," Tamara Nikolayevna went on, "and yet we are like friends who have known one another for years." The family of Lieutenant Colonel Mikhail Ivanovich Kovalev, retired, a war veteran, has been accomodated in the apartment of Boris Prishchepa, a

fitter. On the very first day Mikhail Ivanovich asked about a photograph of his host in military uniform.

"I served on the western border," Boris explained, "and I will always remember my years in the army." And a minute later Mikhail Ivanovich and his hospitable host were embracing like relatives meeting each other after a long absence. It turned out that Sergeant Prishchepa had served at the border post which Lieutenant Kovalev used to command. The post took part in its first battle 22 June, 1941.

"Those who came through the war are always in the forefront even today, and do not seek easy work," Lieutenant Colonel I. Bidukha, military commissar of Borodyankovskiy Rayon, said. "And during these difficult days their courage and strength of spirit has been particularly evident." The whole Kovalev family is today in the forefront of those who are engaged in eliminating the consequences of the accident. His son Lieutenant Colonel V. Kovalev, a military helicopter pilot, has been dropping loads onto the damaged reactor.

On parting from Kovalev I again remembered words I had heard: No misfortune is to be feared when you have such people.

Area Children Receive Holiday Health Care

LD131813 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Pioneer bugles sounded out over the coast of the Black Sea today. Boys and girls who came here from the area around Chernobyl AES for their school summer holidays took over the many children's health centers. (Gurskiy), chairman of the Odessa Oblast Trade Union Council, told a TASS correspondent how they had prepared for the season which began 2 weeks earlier than usual. Everything is ready to receive the children at each of the pioneer camps — and we have about 50 of them, he said. The holiday period for each group has been increased to 45 days. It has been organized as at a sanatorium. All expenditure on improving the children's health is being met by the trade unions and the state. Special attention is being paid to medical checks on the children's health. For this purpose, doctors and nurses have taken on extra duties. The oblast culture and theater department of the town and sports organizations have prepared special programs for events in the camps, worked out routes for interesting excursions to the sites of the hero-city, and have drawn up programs of sports festivals and competitions.

Activities at Ukrainian Sanatorium Reported

LD101731 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 10 May, in its regular "Vremya" newscast, broadcasts a 1-minute video report from a Mirgorod sanatorium. The video shows people walking in the grounds and drinking water from spa fountains, and then cuts to shots of rowboats on a river.

The reporter says: "The Khorol River, like the Pripyat, flows into the Dnepr basin. This is why the health resort here has set up sanitation posts to closely monitor the level of radiation in the water." The camera then shows a man taking readings on instruments; and the reporter asks him about his tasks, to which the man replies: "There is no threat whatsoever to the health of the people who are resting or who are using the water basin."

The report ends with the reporter interviewing a group of people "who have come from various parts of the USSR." They emphasize how much they enjoy the sanatorium's facilities.

IAEA Thanks USSR for 'Readiness to Cooperate'

PM121122 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Session Held"]

[Text] Vienna, 9 May — A session of the IAEA Administration and Budget Committee which comprises 35 states including the USSR has been held here.

The committee discussed a work program for cooperation in the spheres of the nuclear power industry, nuclear safety provisions, the international system of nuclear information, and thermonuclear research. The IAEA budget for 1987-1988 was also discussed. Touching upon the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, the committee thanked the Soviet Government for inviting the IAEA director general to visit the Soviet Union in connection with the incident and welcomed the readiness of the competent Soviet organs to cooperate with the agency by providing it with the necessary information.

Blix to Swedish Paper: 'Satisfaction' With Visit

LD121619 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Stockholm May 12 TASS — General Director of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Hans Blix has expressed satisfaction with the results of his visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government in connection with the Chernobyl accident.

It is important, he said in an interview to the Swedish newspaper *DAGENS NYHETER*, tht the Soviet side will efficiently send information on the radiation situation and the results of measurements. Hans Blix positively appraised the fact that the accord with the Soviet representatives on the issue was reached very promptly. Such a positive stand, in his opinion, can promote creation of an international system of providing the International Atomic Energy Agency with the necessary data with the aim of controlling the radioactive situation and timely warning on atomic power plant accidents leading to grave consequences.

Touching upon the stay in the USSR, Hans Blix noted that a possibility was granted to him and his company to familiarize themselves with the situation in Chernobyl and to visit directly the accident area where work is now broadly under way to eliminate its consequences. Hans Blix familiarised himself with the information on the results of the medical check-up of part of the population, which, he said, are fully reliable.

PRAVDA Carries Communique on IAEA Officials' Visit

PM121107 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 86
First Edition p 5

[Unattributed "communique" on visit to USSR by IAEA officials Hans Blix, Morris Rosen, and others from 5-9 May]

[Text] At the invitation of the USSR Government IAEA Director General Hans Blix, visited the Soviet Union 5-9 May 1986. He was accompanied by Deputy Director General Konstantinov and Rosen, director of the nuclear safety division. Hans Blix and the IAEA officials accompanying him were received by Comrade [Boris Y.] Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and also in the USSR Foreign Ministry and the USSR State Committee for Utilization of Atomic Energy.

During the visit Blix and the specialists accompanying him were given information about the accident at the Chernobly AES. There was a discussion about ways of improving the safety of nuclear power engineering by expanding international cooperation and enhancing the role played by the IAEA in that sphere.

Soviet experts provided the IAEA representatives with a detailed description of the accident on power set No 4 at Chernobyl AES and the measures taken to overcome the consequences of the accident. Blix was informed that the necessary duty staff were at the three undamaged and shut-down power sets of Chernobyl AES. Blix and his colleagues accepted an invitation to visit the area of Chernobyl AES, where they obtained additional information about the situation at the site and the measures being taken to over come the consequences of the accident.

The Soviet side, in accordance with the request by the IAEA director-general, expressed its readiness to provide information about the accident as it becomes available which can be discussed at a conference of experts on nuclear safety to help the IAEA member countries take this experience into account with a view to further enhancing the safety of nuclear power engineering.

The Soviet side is ready to provide the IAEA with information about the level of radiation from a [monitoring] station 60 km from the AES, and from a number of other stations along the western border of the Soviet Union, for transmission by the agency to the appropriate national bodies concerned with radiation safety. The Soviet side declared that the accident that occurred will not affect the implementation of the plans that have been outlined for the development of atomic power engineering in the Soviet Union.

Consderation was given to ways of increasing the safety of nuclear power engineering and to international measures which it was expedient to devise within the IAEA framework to reduce the possible consequences of accidents at nuclear power plants. Such measures could, in the opinion of the sides, include devising a mechanism for the prompt notification of radioactive discharges that might give rise to consequences beyond national borders, receiving information about the levels of the natural radioactive background, and also introducing possible additional technical means at nuclear installations to prevent accidents and reduce their consequences.

The two sides stressed the importance of the IAEA's activities directed toward ensuring both nuclear safety and the exclusively peaceful use of atomic energy.

TASS: Blix Criticizes Western Reporting on Chernobyl

LD140942 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Vienna May 14 TASS — Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), addressing the assembly of the International Press Institute here, criticised the Western mass media for their coverage of the accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station. He said that the "Western style," which the mass media used in covering the accident, could well have triggered extensive and unwarranted panic. The IAEA director general stressed that Western reports were often misleading, especially as regards damage and the number of casualties.

Reportage, Analysis of Western Chernobyl Coverage

'Malicious' Campaign Abating

LD131641 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 13 May 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Excerpt] Hello comrades. The malicious campaign in the West, mounted around the accident at Chernobyl AES is gradually abating. Some politicians have criticized the immoderate magnifying of the incident. In a number of countries the precautionary measures introduced in connection with the accident have been lifted. It should be said that contradictory reports spread by the anti-Sovieteers finally caused panic in the internal markets of the Western countries themselves, where it is said that is now very difficult to sell even hothouse vegetables.

U.S. Exaggerates Incident

PM130804 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 6 May 86 p 7

["Transatlantic Reportage" by TASS correspondent A. Shalnev written specially for *SOVETSKAYA KULTURA*: "Custom-made Slander"]

[Text] Washington — Colonel Robert Berls, air attache at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, put it briefly and clearly on his return from Kiev: Everything there is normal.

The colonel returned to Moscow on a day when many American journalists and administration spokesmen rushed to outdo each other — as if afraid that someone else might be the first to break the sensational news — and started telling the world that supposedly the number of people who died as a result of the Chernobyl AES accident was in the hundreds and thousands and rising, that supposedly everyone was gripped by panic, that supposedly the Ukraine's cities are like ghost towns, and that supposedly...

Altogether, some lengthy yarns were spun on that day. By way of "proof," reference was made to intelligence sources, which, of course, are well aware of everything; both press and television displayed a few blurred and faded snapshots taken by photographic equipment onboard satellites.

When this proved to be still insufficient, recourse was had to another method: A radio ham apparently turned up, tapping out Morse code messages right from Chernobyl itself and reporting blood-chilling details of the occurrence. We have a source! — the newspapers shouted. — 100-percent reliable! But what about Col Robert Berls? Never mind him, this is a reliable source indeed! Namely an anonymous radio ham or, still better, anonymous intelligence sources, which, judging by press and television reports, are absolutely identical for all reporters — but this is something else. References to these reports created panic. No, not among Soviet people — this was not to be — but among Western diplomats and tourists.

An exodus was organized almost as though by command. Tourist trips were canceled and travelers were offered — in a display of almost paternalistic concern for their health — return trips to the states or a switch to Western Europe.

Fair enough, they returned. Take for example a group of 31 tourists from Long Island, near New York. They had hardly got off the aircraft at Kennedy Airport when they were surrounded by people with Geiger counters in their hands and, naturally, dozens of photographers and television reporters.

They were checked. The diagnosis? "No danger," according to Charles (Maynkhold), leader of the Geiger counter group.

In fact the tourists had returned from Kiev. They left there on the day Col Berls returned to Moscow.

What about the radio ham from near Chernobyl, the one who revealed to the world the "truth" which was being covered up by the USSR?

Here is an admission finally made by *THE WASHINGTON POST*: Radio hams in many countries have voiced doubts about the existence of the man in Chernobyl. No one had ever managed to raise him on the airwaves before. And Jack Nelson, spokesman of the British Radio Society, considers it an extremely strange fact that the alleged conversation with the man from Chernobyl was not monitored by a single other ham, even though the mysterious conversation was held on a most popular frequency.

In general, the propaganda machine set in motion at full speed by the Washington administration ground to a halt.

Here is an excerpt from a press conference transcript: Question: The director of the George Washington University Nuclear Medicine Institute declared today that it is most likely that indeed only two persons died as a result of the accident, as the Soviets said. Could it be that they are really telling the truth?

Answer: I do not think that we are in a position to know the correct answer. It is perfectly possible that (the Soviet Union) is correct...

The answer was given by Harold Denton, nuclear science specialist and member of the so-called interdepartmental group set up on President Reagan's instructions to "investigate questions connected with the accident" at the Chernobyl AES.

Why then, to quote one of the reporters who attended the press conference given by specialists from the interdepartmental group, "draw irresponsible conclusions regarding" the scale of the incident? But this is a different question, and Harold Denton would hardly answer it. After all, he is only a physicist...

Postscript: Since 1979, U.S. nuclear power stations have registered a total of more than 20,000 small, medium, and major incidents and breakdowns. This has just been announced by the "Public Citizen" social research organization. No one remembers the administration releasing this figure at any time...

'Pack of Lies'

LD081954 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 8 May 86

[Video talk by writer Genrikh Borovik; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello, comrades. We have just seen new material on the situation in the areas adjacent to Chernobyl AES. Having flown over the site of the accident, Director General Blix of the IAEA testifies that the situation is normalizing there. The fabrications of Western propaganda about a mass grave for 15,000 people and incredible destruction all around, are being destroyed. This pack of lies has been circulating, and still is, as if being directed from a single center.

Letters are coming in to television and newspaper editorial offices, the authors of which note how amicably, in what an agreed manner, just as if at a command, the West launched the propaganda attack against us. In fact, we are not talking about a misfortune, but about a crime, just like, for example, the continuation of underground nuclear testing in Nevada, like the stockpiling of nuclear and binary weapons and the development of space weapons, and so on. Whose hand is guiding these pens, many of the authors of these letters ask? I would like to talk not so much about this question itself, as much as the circumstances that give rise to it.

We live in a harsh world, in a world in which, as is now being confirmed anew, there are highly placed people who rejoice in the misfortune of others, just as the Hitlerites rejoiced when they managed to destroy a Leningrad food store. We are not a frightened people, we are not getting ourselves scared over foreign terrorist death squads, but the question people are asking arises from the situation that prevails in the world. I have in mind the explosion in the West Berlin discotheque, the bombing of Libya, and the provocation with a South Korean aircraft, and many other things. The naturalness, the legitimacy, so to speak, of this question is one of the manifestations of the tragedy of the modern world. It is one more warning that people, whose standard of morality is immeasureably lower than the destructive level of the weapons they possess, are pushing the world toward catastrophe.

The newspapers have reported many facts, like the nuclear accident in the United States, that have led to tragic consequences. I would add just one instance, when a Hollywood film crew were filming a feature film several years ago in the Nevada desert, where the Pentagon, as is known, regularly tests nuclear weapons. All the members of the film crew, including the famous American film actor John Wayne, died from the same illness. As far as I know, there were no official reports about this at all in the United states.

Time will pass. The monstrous propaganda show with which the West has surrounded the misfortune in Chernobyl will be packed away, passions will cool and the people who today have come under its influence will think about just what did happen. And I think that they will understand that the campaign was guided by those for whom the Soviet proposals for a moratorium on nuclear testing and destruction by the end of the century of nuclear weapons undermine all their life's plans. They have thought to get from their propaganda explosion an anti-Soviet political fall-out and to spread it as widely as possible round the earth. People will realize that this whole spectacle based upon a misfortune tells of the lack of morality of its organizers no less than the bombing of Libya, the shelling of Beirut, or the poisoning of Vietnamese land with chemical weapons.

Paper on U.S. 'Malicious Reaction'

PM120937 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent V. Soldatov report: "Unworthy Behavior"]

[Text] New York — The accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station aroused in a number of American statesmen and politicians and the mass media not a sense of sympathy with the victims, but flagrant schadenfreude.

Many American newspapers and the television and radio have deliberately reported fantastic rumors which are enough to make your hair stand on end.

This malicious reaction is a common phenomenon here. During my years of work as a correspondent in the United States I have had repeated opportunities to see for myself that both the American right and the so-called liberals are prepared to break into a dance the minute a "Russian failure" is reported. But it is not a case of schadenfreude alone. There are other motives too.

In recent months the Republican administration has been firmly on the defensive. The peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, which proposed a plan for radically reducing and then eliminating nuclear weapons and which has not carried out any nuclear explosions for a long time, caused confusion in Washington. It became much more difficult for the administration to convince the Americans and their allies that its promises to promote nuclear disarmament are not simply fine phrases spoken in order to reassure people who are worried about the nuclear danger.

It was no accident that the State Department recently spoke of the need to stop the "public diplomacy," which has become extremely disadvantageous to Washington, and go over to confidential talks.

And then the Chernobyl accident happened. The administration immediately went into a propaganda attack, misrepresenting, through old habit, both the event and its significance. *THE WASHINGTON POST* correspondents in Tokyo reported on 3 May that at briefings for correspondents, U.S. officials constantly drew the reporters' attention to the accident at the nuclear power station in the Soviet Union and denied that they were exaggerating the danger represented by this event.

The accident at Chernobyl, American propagandists say and write, is evidence that the United States should not trust the Soviet Union in anything. In particular, they say, the Russians cannot be trusted on arms control questions. This idea was expressed most concisely by the well-known *THE NEW YORK TIMES* observer and well-known chauvinist W. Safire, who expresses the views of the hardest right. "Flirting with arms control agreements based on mutual trust," he writes, "will inevitably lead to cheating."

The White House also inspired the present anti-Soviet campaign in order to justify in the public's eyes its own feverish activity in preparation for "star wars" and the lack of progress at disarmament talks.

At the same time it is becoming increasingly obvious that the U.S. Administration has no desire to achieve success at Soviet-U.S. strategic arms reduction talks. This is indicated by its attitude toward the Soviet proposals on eliminating nuclear weapons, the White House intention to continue underground nuclear explosions with a view to creating new models of nuclear weapons, and the demand for an increase in the Pentagon's budget.

Justice requires me to say that by no means all Americans approve the noisy anti-Soviet campaign being pursued by the administration. They draw quite different conclusions than Washington does from the Chernobyl accident.

'Cacophonous Pandemonium'

LD101544 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 10 May 86

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by *PRAVDA* Political Observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] The participants in the Tokyo meeting linked their voices to the anti-Soviet hullabaloo raised in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES [Atomic Energy Station]. Of course, a calamity took place in Chernobyl. But the human being approaches the cognition of nature, the mastery of its secrets by a thorny path. The Arctic, the ocean depths, or space do not submit without tragic losses. And it is possible only to regret that against the broad backdrop of sympathy, understanding and the sincere desire to help, attempts were revealed to use what had happened for unscrupulous speculations. Cock-and-bull stories are whipped up about thousands of dead, fires at a completely destroyed station, a radioactive threat not only to Europe but to

the United States also. Throughout this cacophonous pandemonium a single leitmotif is clearly to be heard: there, it goes, you have a new example that the Soviet Union is a closed society. Terrible things take place there, they say, and they try to hide them from the outside world. From this it emerges that it is not possible to trust the Soviet Union. And once you cannot trust it, then it is useless negotiating with it, and it would appear that the Soviet peace initiatives do not deserve attention.

By means of hysterics about the accident in Chernobyl attempts are made to hush up the nuclear explosions in Nevada, the demands to stop nuclear tests, and to liquidate nuclear weapons as such. But what has happened has reminded people of what a threatening force the energy of the atom is, of how circumspectly it is necessary to have dealings with it, even when it is a question of its peaceful use. What calamities await humanity indeed, if, instead of an accident at a nuclear reactor, which it is possible to get under control and whose consequences it is possible to remove, devices for nuclear charged lasers start to explode in orbit, if, on the earth and in space a nuclear missile conflict breaks out, the scale of which no one will be able to control and whose consequences no one will be able to control and whose consequences no one will be capable of removing?

In a word, the sensation about Chernobyl forces people to think even more deeply about the dangerous consequences of the military course of Washington and lends additional weight to Moscow's peaceloving intiatives against the calculations to discredit them.

'Red Menace' Stereotype Behind Propaganda

LD121753 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 12 May 86

[Commentary by political observer Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Text] Studying the many articles, commentaries and reports in the bourgeois mass media concerning the accident at the Chernobyl AES, one notes their general biased nature [zadannost] along with a varied assortment of slanderous fabrications. This bias is a rehash of the extremely worn-out old stereotype that was expressed by the term "Red menace." There was a time when the argument used to prop up this stereotype was that the Soviet Union opposed disarmament and disagreed with the liquidation of nucler weapons under international monitoring. The numerous lucid and realistic proposals put forward by the USSR to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2000 and to create an all-embracing system of international security have knocked the foundation out from under the stereotype.

The accident at Chernobyl AES is being used to try to prevent this stereotype from collapsing altogether. It amounts to accusing the Soviet Union of concealing the truth over what happened at the nuclear power station. The "Red menace" is still there because the Soviet Union just cannot be trusted — that is the logic behind the current propaganda campaign. This is the rule the Soviet Union should follow, according to the West: Report immediately about everything that happened at the AES, without waiting for a thorough check and scientific analysis of the facts.

How would bourgeois propaganda like it if such haste led to inaccuracies in the depicting of the situation and to errors in its appraisal? In that event, the stereotype of the "Red menace" could be reinforced by accusations that the Soviet Union was lying.

What sort of authority have those who are writing rules for us to follow? If you recall, the U.S. Congress was informed about the accident at the U.S. nuclear power station at Three Mile Island within 10 days, whereas the International Atomic Energy Agency learned about it almost 2 months after the accident. That deals with the question of the time factor. Now, regarding the substance of the information: It was incomplete and in many ways contradictory and has remained that way ever since.

What happens when honest people in the U.S. analyze the reasons for a serious accident, and the public finds out the truth about these reasons? (Alan Macdonald) and (Roger Bodgeley), employees of a firm that took part in the creation of the U.S. "Challenger" spacecraft told the truth about the criminal negligence that led to the spacecraft being destroyed. (Macdonaid) and (Bodgeley) were demoted. Their colleagues believe they got off lightly.

One recalls how former U.S. Secretary for War [as heard] Arthur Sylvester reacted to the demands by U.S. journalists to tell the truth about U.S. Army crimes in Vietnam. Listen, Sylvester said, if you believe that any U.S. leader intends to tell you the truth, then you are fools; fools; do you hear me?

The U.S. authorities still hold to that principle today, including when they give out information about the leakage of radioactivity during underground nuclear explosions in Nevada and about accidents at nuclear power stations.

FRG Media Sow Panic Over Chernobyl

PM131000 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 May 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Yakhontov dispatch: "The Real Goals of the Hostile Campaign"]

[Text] Bonn, 11 May — Certain circles in the FRG and their mass news media that do their bidding are continuing to exploit the Chernobyl AES accident as an opportunity to whip up anti-Soviet hysteria. The tone of this unsavory and inhumane campaign is set by the United States, which, citing "data" obtained with the help of spy satellites, is spreading all kinds of fairytales.

Right-wing publications and the gutter press in the FRG eagerly take up these lies and, blowing them up, sow panic among the country's population. The organizers of the hysteria campaign are circulating a downright lie alleging that "thousands" of people in Chernobyl died as a result of the accident and that "there is no one to bury them." It is true that a few days later the newspapers reported that the Soviet figures "have proved to be accurate," but this appeared, as always, in small print instead of under the banner headlines which accompany the "sensational reports." All this is having an effect. No one buys fresh greens

or vegetables at markets or stores in the FRG capital and other cities. No children are to be seen in Bonn's streets. Children's playgrounds are deserted. Tennis courts, swimming pools, and many parks are closed. Feeling that they may have overdone the panic-mongering, the authorities have started backpedaling. The FRG minister of the interior delivered a more or less reassuring statement on television, and the setting up of a special commission of scientists dealing with radiation protection has been announced. This statement said: "There is no danger to people or animals in the FRG, nor is there any need for any restrictions. There are absolutely no grounds for panic." But such explanations are, of course, effective only for unprejudiced people, certainly not for those who act on the instructions of the opponents of peace and socialism. *UNSERE ZEIT* wrote in an editorial that the scheme of the initiators of the latest anti-Soviet campaign boils down to an attempt to undermine confidence in the USSR, its peace-loving policy, and its peace initiatives. By causing unjustified fear and sowing panic, the FRG right-wing forces want to diminish the impact of the program that the Soviet Union has put forward for the stage-by-stage liquidation of nuclear weapons by the end of the century.

Western TV 'Led Up Garden Path' by Yugoslav Videotape

LD141053 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1012 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Rome, 14 May (TASS) — The Italian state television company RAI TV has questioned the authenticity of a videotape shown on Italian television, in which a fire at the Chernobyl AES was allegedly depicted. The U.S. television companies NBC and ABC showed this subject on their stations on 12 May after RAI TV.

The film, it was maintained, was taken by a Yugoslav tourist at a distance of 14 km from the AES several days after the explosion. On 14 May Italian television showed another film with a picture of an industrial district of Trieste, a town in the north of Italy. The buildings represented during the showing of both tapes turned out to be similar, and Italian television received hundreds of letters from people who recognized the alleged Chernobyl AES to be ...a cement factory in Trieste.

Later RAI TV confirmed that the Yugoslav tourist's film turned out to be a forgery depicting an industrial district in Trieste.

According to reports from the United States, the NBC and ABC television companies started to investigate the circumstances in which the Yugoslav tourist's film was obtained. However, it is hard to acknowledge the coincidence of the fact that three major Western television companies, including American ones, were led up the garden path by a trickster.

In its effort to exaggerate the extent of the accident and its possible consequences, the Western press has repeatedly published different "sensational" and slanderous material, contrary to the facts. It is obvious that a quest for such information was the real reason that led to the showing of a forgery on Italian and American television.

Embassy in FRG States USSR Safe for Tourists

LD131851 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Bonn May 13 TASS — In conjunction with the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station reports have appeared in the West German press alleging health hazards to West German citizens going to the USSR on tourist tours.

Groundless claims are being made about allegedly increased radioactivity levels on a considerable part of the territory of the USSR, the penetration of radiation into water reservoirs, the "radioactive contamination" of foodstuffs in the USSR and the like. On this basis recommendations are being made not to travel to the Soviet Union. The embassy of the USSR in the Federal Republic of Germany would like to declare the following on this score:

"The systematic monitoring of the radioactive state of the terrain has shown that on the territory of the Ukraine, Belorussia and Moldavia radiation levels do not exceed the radiation safety norms set by the IAEA and the Public Health Ministry of the USSR.

"The radiation situation in air space, the water reservoirs on all itineraries and in all cities visited by foreign tourists does not have deviations from normal.

"This applies also to foodstuffs which undergo obligatory checks. Since the accident not a single foreign tourist in the USSR has suffered damage to his or her health.

"Kiev has been visited by IAEA Director-General Hans Blix and a group of foreign correspondents who have seen for themselves there that there is no threat to the health of the city's residents.

"Any apprehensions concerning tourist trips to the USSR are unfounded. They are based on incorrect information coming from incompetent sources."

Lithuanian Farmers Use Lasers To Level Fields

WA131050 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1500 GMT on 12 May broadcasts a 3-minute commentary by Semen Astakhov on the latest agro-industrial developments in Lithuania. He introduces a report by correspondent Elan (Krukletite) who says she visited some land improvement workers in Kaunas Rayon. They are working with laser equipment.

(Krukletite) introduces three members of the team who are trying to fulfill double daily quotas. One of these workers says: "We have sent several machine operators, along with equipment, to take part in eliminating the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl AEA. Of course, we miss using that equipment now, but we will all work to compensate for it by working for each another."

(Krukletite) asks how much work quality has improved since workers began using laser equipment. A worker says that "productivity has increased by around 15 percent and quality is 3 or

4 times higher."

Astakhov then continues his comments from the studio: "Let me explain that the laser beam is used in marking out the fields and leveling them [pri planirovke, vyravnivanii poley] because it is hard to achieve good cultivation in uneven fields. This is merely one example. Land improvement workers, in constructing and operating new systems, make wide use of automation, long-life chemical materials, and the latest equipment. The state does not stint on funds for the development of land improvement.

BULGARIA

EEC Food Imports Ban from E. Europe Faulted

AU131020 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] The Council of Ministers of the Common Market has announced that the import of certain agricultural goods from Bulgaria, the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Yugoslavia is being halted until the end of this month. This is a completely unjustified discriminatory action and a fomenting of psychosis around the accident [avariya] at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. As is well known, after a special conference devoted to this question the World Health Organization officially reported that food products from the socialist countries are completely safe for consumption and are not radioactive, as is maliciously being asserted in the West.

Further Criticism of EEC Ban

AU131747 Sofia BTA in English 1349 GMT 13 May 86

["Discrimination or Subversion Against Peaceful Coexistence and Trade" — BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, May 13 (BTA commentator Ivo Garvalov) — Simply discrimination? Or maybe a provocation? And why not an attempt at subversion?

This strong — unusually strong — language outlines the possible range of motives underlying the decision of the Common Market foreign ministers to ban the import of foods from the U.S.S.R., Hungary, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia until May 31. The pretext is the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

Why comment on the ethics of government officials who try to make discriminatory policy out of a mishap? But if we would grasp the essence of such a puzzling decision, we should take a look back in time. Precisely when was this decision made? Perhaps when the scope of the Chernobyl disaster was still uncertain in quantitative terms? No, it was taken weeks after some quite competent Soviet and foreign experts had determined that the radiation hazard is insignificant and declining. Maybe there is still something unclear? No, if those statesmen would not give credence to the specialists on site, then let them trust their own press, which has repeated, time and again, that radioiodine 131 has a half-life of eight and a half days! Or maybe the West knows better, so that can afford [as received] to raise political noise? Yes, some countries do. such states as Finland, Austria, Greece and others, which are much closer to the accident site than the United States, and even countries who were first inclined to succumb to alarm, if not to panic, have now come up with official statements that radiation levels on their territory pose no danger at all.

The Common Market has decided to take discriminatory action at a point which has its explanation in other coincidences. It came only days after the United States forced its Western partners in Tokyo to put their signatures (if not to reach a consensus) on a declaration directed against the socialist community. And yet another coincidence. Months before the Chernobyl accident, disregarding the Soviet proposals on a nuclear testing moratorium, Washington carried out two nuclear explosions at the Nevada desert. And only days before April 26, official Washington decided to launch a campaign to convince the world of the impossible: that its nuclear tests are harmless, despite the undisclosed dose of radiation released in one of them.

The campaign is far-reaching in its objectives: It seeks to legalize nuclear tests, to undermine the road leading to peace and nuclear disarmament. The Chernobyl disaster is now taken as an unfair opportunity to suggest that nuclear tests are "harmless", while peaceful atoms pose a threat, although mankind simply cannot do without them at this stage.

That is why today's decision of the Common Market, as part of NATO's overall political propaganda campaign, can be only described as a subversion against peace and international cooperation, against East-West trade.

HUNGARY

Nationwide Radiation Levels Return to Normal

LD131302 Budapest MTI in English 1148 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Budapest, May 13 (MTI) — The latest data of radiation level measurements show that the radioactive content of the air in Hungary has returned to the natural level. The radioactivity of the soil, plants and surface waters is close to the natural value.

POLAND

Urban on U.S. Milk Aid, EEC Ban on Food

LD131859 Warsaw PAP in English 1731 GMT 13 May 86

["Minister Urban's Press Conference" — by Stanislaw Filipczak and Janusz Zaleski]

[Excerpt] Warsaw, May 13 — The main topics discussed by Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban at today's press conference for foreign journalists included the resolution of the U.S. Senate calling on President Reagan to deliver aid to Poland in the form of powdered milk, the Polish humanitarian aid for the homeless in New York, losses sustained by Poland as a result of the EC ban on food imports from Poland, the stand of the government towards the call of the episcopate to lift the law allowing abortions, and the stance of the Polish Olympic committee on the summer Olympics in both Korean states.

"American Aid"

"On May 7, the Senate of the United States passed a resolution calling on the U.S. President to send aid in the form of powdered milk to Poland. The Polish Government did not ask anyone for such assistance," stated Jerzy Urban.

"The shortage of this kind of milk in Poland is only temporary. The Polish Government ordered to purchase the immediately

necessary amount of powdered milk for children in Western Europe on an urgent basis. The supply of Polish powdered milk will soon be exceptionally plentiful. Despite all these circumstances the Polish authorities are accepting with due gratitude every reaction of human solidarity and kindness towards Poles," he went on.

"Unforutnately we cannot limit our commentary to this statement," the government spokesman said and added: "Every tonne of milk designated for Poland is accompanied by a portion of abusive, arrogant words which the Senate's resolution contains and which were uttered in the American Senate during the debate on the milk resolution."

"One has an impression that the real aim of sending milk is not assisting Polish mothers but finding a pretext for more political declarations hostile to Poland. In declaring the milky gift, the Senate calls — with great exaggeration — the radioactive contamination over Poland a tragedy. It also implies that the U.S. Government is concerned with nothing else but supplying permanent aid for Poland. The Senate stresses in the resolution — with tact which is characteristic of it — that the U.S. Government has at its disposal great surpluses of powedered milk and connects precisely this surplus with the declaration of friendship toward Poles," Urban said.

The transport of powdered milk is treated by the U.S. Senate as an opportunity for questioning the good intentions and honesty of the Polish authorities. An amendment was adopted which puts to question the honest intentions of the Polish Government and which excludes cooperation with it even in distributing the milk among children, he went on.

This stirs surprise and indignation because it is contrary to the elementary principles of international relations. A question arises as to with whom the United States Government maintains diplomatic relations, Urban said.

Senator Dole spoke about the desperate need for milk in Poland which has, in his opinion, become a victim of a nuclear nightmare. He forgets that it is precisely the arms policy of the U.S. that threatens Poland and the world with a real nuclear nightmare, said he [Urban].

The American Administration is sending U.S. 50 thousand tonnes of powdered milk which, as is stressed, it absolutely does not need, stated Jerzy Urban further on.

Meanwhile, the American restrictions on Polish agriculture and food industry have themselves caused losses for Poland in the range of a few billion dollars. Talking about aid for the Polish nation on the part of the authorities of a country which in recent years tried to incur losses on it as only it could and did indeed cause immense losses, not only economic ones by the way, is at least an exaggeration, continued Urban.

At the same moment in which the American Senate was passing the resolution, full of hostility and hypocrisy, on the shipment of powdered milk which is being served to us on a dirty dish, the allies of the U.S. grouped in the European Economic Community groundlessly, under the pretext of contamination, adopted a ban on imports of food from Poland, the spokesman said.

The losses which Poland will sustain as a result of this will not be compensated by the donated powdered milk. One might say that forcing Polish products out of the Western market, which is being carried under an unfair pretext, will cause that Poland's position as an exporter of foodstuffs will be taken over by, among others, the U.S. The United States can earn many times more through new anti-Polish restrictions than what the cost of unnecessary for it surpluses of powdered milk is.

The Polish Government has declared and is currently declaring a wish to improve relations between Poland and the U.S, Urban continued.

Statements by some representatives of the U.S. Administration went in a similar direction of late. Unfortunately, not all of them. Vice President Bush delivered a speech extremely hostile towards people's Poland. The debate in the Senate which was characterized by hostility towards Poland proves that there are still forces in Washington which want to hamper the improvement of relations with Poland. We deplore this. Sending milk to Poland could have been a gesture of friendship. Unfortunately, American powdered milk has been more contaminated than the iodine-contaminated milk from Polish cows because it has been contaminated with hostility, Urban stated.

We are thankful for the shipment of milk sent from American non-governmental organizations which did not season their shipments with words full of poisonous hostility, added the spokesman.

We have learnt from the American press that in New York City alone there are many thousands of homeless people who sleep in the streets. For the Poles it is a shocking phenomenon. I have been authorized to state that Poland, being guided by humanitarian reasons, decided to give five thousand sleeping bags and blankets to the homeless in New York City, Minister Urban said.

This gift will be conveyed to the American charity organization CARE. Knowing the Reagan administration's dislike for the programme of social assistance, and for support to the extremely poor who are so many in that richest country in the world — we would rather entrust a non-governmental institution with distributing the Polish gift.

EC Ban on Food Imports From Poland

Losses following the ban on imports of Polish foodstuffs to Western markets will amount to 45-50 million dollars at the end of May, according to preliminary estimates, the spokesman said. No one knows, however, what the effects of that ban will be after it is lifted, the effects of pushing Poland temporarily out of its traditional markets, he went on.

Poland's food exports were expected to amount to over 900 million dollars this year. So far, some 200 million dollars worth of exports were materialized, Urban said.

Recently Poland has signed an agreement with the Soviet Union on increasing her exports of fresh vegetables to the Soviet border republics.

Measures To Protect Poles From Radiation Outlined

LD130959 Warsaw PAP in English 0900 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Warsaw, May 13 — Following are excerpts from an interview granted *RZECZPOSPOLITA* government daily by General Prof. Jerzy Bonczak, an expert in biomedicine. The general spoke on the preventive measures taken in Poland to protect our population from the influence of the radioactive cloud which passed over Poland's territory.

"We started informing people on the current situation as early as the first night hours of April 29 through the government commission's communiques," said the general. "First of all, though, we had to organize on a very short notice an action aimed at protecting the health of, let us say it frankly, 37 million citizens of our state."

"The main attention over that period, because of the character of the threat, which involved iodine 131, was focused on children and teenagers below 16 years of age. The nation-wide preventive action, which took only three days, encompassed more than 10 million children and teenagers. I will not mention here the several million grownup citizens who administered themselves with Lugol fluid on their own, which was utterly unnecessary."

"It would be good to realize, too, that the enormous preventive action we conducted in Poland on the first days of the radionuclide threat was, in principle, the first and the only action of such a wide scope in the history of medicine," concluded Nonczak. "For this reason, the opinions and postulates stemming from the Polish experience will certainly be used also by the World Health Organization, WHO, which pays much attention to the situation in our state, too."

YUGOSLAVIA

Loncar Explains SFRY Protest to EEC in Assembly

AU131722 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] The last session of the present Chamber of Republics and Provinces was held today in the SFRY Assembly. A report and a sharp protest against the EEC decision to ban imports of agricultural produce from Yugoslavia were adopted. Budimir Loncar, deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs, made a speech and read the statement by the Federal Executive Council:

[Begin Loncar recording] The Federal Executive Council received with regret and concern the EC decision banning the imports of some agricultural produce from Yugoslavia after the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. The Federal Executive Council considers this measure unilateral and unfounded. It is contrary to the contractual relations and cooperation between Yugoslavia and the EC, which are based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit, and the necessity of consultations on all possible problems and difficulties that may arise between them.

The strict control and precaution measures which Yugoslavia has been taking since radiation appeared, and the comprehensive information offered to the domestic and international public about them, should have been a guarantee for unhindered development of economic cooperation with the said countries. Radiation in Yugoslavia did not reach a level to cause concern, and particularly not to justify the introduction of such measures.

It is unacceptable practice to adopt such and similar measures without EC-SFRY Government consultation which is one of the contractual principles between the SFRY and the EC. The Federal Executive Council believes that in the interest of mutual relations and cooperation, the EC should urgently reexamine its decision for the purpose of establishing normal conditions for a continuation of commodity trade between Yugoslavia and the EC countries.

This statement was sent by Comrade Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, to his colleague, the minister of foreign affairs of the Netherlands, as the chairman of the EC during this term. We are informed that the latter further informed the EC council. At the same time, we called all 12 ambassadors of the EC member-countries and the representative of the EC Commission to the Secretariat for Foreign Affairs. We acquainted them with this statement and pointed out to them the following:

First, that such a unilateral discriminatory measure directly opposes the proclaimed interests of both the Community and Yugoslavia that efforts be made by the EC precisely now, when the second trade protocol is under consideration, to facilitate trade and to enable the relations to become more dynamic; it is known that relations are stagnating precisely because of discriminatory or restrictive measures by the EC.

Second, that such a measure will have an unfavorable chain reaction on other sectors of Yugoslav relations with the EC countries and beyond, such as tourism, and we pointed out to them the cancellation of some arrangements that have been contracted for.

Third, we underlined that it will have [Loncar corrects himself] may have some influence on the position of EFTA which is also concerned and is now considering its own measures, as well as on the position of the United States and Canada.

And fourth, we particularly underlined that aligning Yugoslavia, once again after a long time, with the group of the East european countries, cannot but reflect — not only apparently but also in substance — a political view, a regional placing of us on a political basis which is unacceptable to Yugoslavia and which contrasts with the contractual relations between the SFRY and EC. We pointed out that such a measure creates an atmosphere of distrust and that it cannot escape the indignation and even condemnation of our public opinion.

At the same time we pointed out that the parallel steps taken — for instance, their exempting the GDR because it guarantees by its seriousness and its well-known feeling of responsibility that it

will take all the necessary measures — indirectly indicate that Yugoslavia has an unserious and irresponsible government, and that this is an indirect additional insult, which we reject and denounce. [end recording]

SFRY Correspondent Reports on Visit to Region

AU091625 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Special TANJUG reporter Slavko Stanic, who is otherwise a permanent correspondent in Moscow, with a group of foreign correspondents today visited the endangered area in the immediate vicinity of the damaged power station at Chernobyl.

[Begin Stanic recording] In Kiev, from where we are reporting, there are at least 1 million of its people out in the streets just now. One does not have the impression that they are adhering strictly to the rules of protection against radiation, although these were officially recommended.

The level of radioactivity here this morning amounted to 0.2 milliroentgens, and in the Chernobyl region around the damaged Lenin atomic power station it amounted 130 milliroentgens.

Half an hour ago, a group of foreign reporters including your correspondent, returned from (?Kopilov), 60 kilometers outside the evacuated danger zone. The radioactivity registered there today amounted to 0.35 milliroentgens, but its level fluctuazes constantly, depending on the direction of the wind. Our hosts would not let us go further. In this region, there are about 6,000 citizens evacuated from Pripyat, the settlement nearest to the damaged power station. Reception centers have been organized, a medical service has been set up and those avacuated are constantly beuing checked, and there is a check of water, food, and milk. According to the latest data which we received from our hosts half an hour ago, 92,000 people have been evacuated so far. However, there is no panic here. Many of the people — according to some data as many as 70 percent — began to work in the fields of their hosts who provided accomodation for them. [end recording]

AUSTRIA

Health Ministry Projects Long-Term Chernobyl Impact

AU131005 Vienna NEUE AZ in German 13 May 86 p 7

[Christian Nusser report]

[Excerpt] In Austria, radioactivity values of level three, that is, more than 100 microroentgen, were measured in only two provincial capitals, Linz and Salzburg. On 1 and 2 May our country's population was exposed to increased radiation. In Vienna radiation levels were always relatively low. Since this date values have been decreasing up to now.

The Health Ministry is now starting to calculate the effects of this radiation. According to these calculations, increased radioactivity levels will probably be maintained over the next 20 to 30 years. About 300 additional deaths from cancer are expected.

BELGIUM

TASS: Martens Says Country at No Risk

LD092106 Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Brussels May 9 TASS — The accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station has not created the slightest health risk to the population of Belgium. Radiation levels in the air of the country, in drinking water or in food have never reached dangerous levels, Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens said here today.

Delivering a governmental statement to the Senate on the consequences of the Chernobyl accident to the country, he said that throughout the days since the accident the international radiation levels in the air had not been exceeded in Belgium. Readings taken by specialists showed that radiation levels in drinking water and fresh vegetables were far below the international norms.

FINLAND

Statement at UN Confirms No Radiation Risk

LD091549 Moscow TASS in English 2106 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] New York May 9 TASS — The Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations disclaimed "erroneous information" that has come up abroad concerning the radiation effects in Finland due to the accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station. At no stage after the accident have the radiation levels measured in Finland increased so much that they would have given rise to any special measures for protecting the population against health hazards, the statement of the Permanent Mission released at the U.N. Headquarters says. The accident has not increased the radiation level in northern Finland at all.

According to the information received in Finland, the statement says, iodine tablets have been distributed in some countries especially to children. On the basis of the radiation concentrations measures in milk, the Finnish National Board of Health does not consider it necessary to distribute iodine. The statement also says that, according to the Finnish authorities, there is no reason for limiting travels to Finland.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Bonn Counters USSR Embassy on 'Safe' Travel Areas

LD131841 Hamburg DPA in German 1552 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Bonn, 13 May (DPA) — The Bonn Foreign Ministry today again cautioned people against traveling to the disaster area in the Soviet Union. A few hours after a Soviet Embassy statement that travel for foreign tourists to the Ukraine, Belorussia, and Moldavia along all routes and cities is safe, the Foreign Ministry advised against journeys to the Ukraine and Belorussia.

FDP Group Denies Western Anticommunist Campaign

LD121958 Hamburg DPA in German 1746 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] Berlin, 12 May (DPA) — A delegation of the FDP Bundestag group has reiterated in the GDR the demands for close international cooperation on questions of the safety of nuclear power stations. The members of the group's working circle on policy on Germany, foreign affairs and security expressed this in Rostock on Monday [12 May] in a talk with representatives of the Rostock Bezirk Council.

As a spokesman for the group reported in West Berlin, the GDR politicians stated that no danger to health has arisen for the population of the GDR from the Soviet reactor accident in Chernobyl. Besides, there were different reactor systems and different safety regulations in the GDR itself from those in the USSR. The FDP politicians rejected accusations made by their partners in the talk from the GDR that the reactor accident in Chernobyl had been reacted to with hysteria and an anticommunist campaign in the West. Safety for people was the only concern.

Bangemann Says Farmers To Lose DM1 Billion

LD131000 Hamburg DPA in German 0943 GMT 13 May 86

[Excerpt] Cologne, 13 May (DPA) — Federal Economics Minister Martin Bangemann (FDP) expects that German farmers and vegetable growers will have suffered about DM1 billion damage as a result of the Soviet reactor accident. However, the Federal Government still has no precise details and seeks to establish the damage from information provided by the Federal states, Bangemann said in an interview with Deutschlandfunk Tuesday [13 May]. He announced that by way of "emergency relief" farmers will receive partial payments without each individual claim being examined immediately. Such examination would take place at a later date.

MALAYSIA

Nuclear Unit Monitoring Chernobyl Effects

BK131317 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] A working group coordinated by the Nuclear Energy Unit in the Prime Minister's Department has been set up to study possible indications to Malaysia of the recent Chernobyl reactor accident in the Soviet Union. Director General of the Nuclear Energy Unit Professor Datuk Mohamed Ghazali Rahman said today the group comprised representatives from the foreign affairs, health and science, technology, [word indistinct], and the veterinary services departments.

He said in a statement that the Nuclear Energy Unit would monitor the environment and all casualties coming from countries affected by the Chernobyl incident, although there were no records of increase in environmental radioactivity in this country.

Following the Chernobyl reactor accident, the Nuclear Energy Unit has set up monitoring of the environment from complex PUSPATI [Pusat Penyelidikan Atom Tun Ismail — Tun Ismail Atomic Energy Research Center] in Kuala Lumpur. Radioactivity in the air, rain, river, water, soil, and vegetation is analyzed at various stations within a 10-km radius at the complex. Professor Datuk Mohamed Ghazali said the unit will assist the health ministry in the control of food items imported from affected region.

NEW ZEALAND

Columnist Sees Chernobyl Supporting Labor Government

HK100938 Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 May 86 p 4

["Weekwatch" column by chief political reporter Tony Garnier: "Soviet Nuclear Accident Will Help Anti-Nukes Policy"]

[Text] It is not true that the Soviet Union stage-managed the Chernobyl nuclear accident to help out the Labour Government.

Of course not. But there can be little doubting that what is happening throughout Europe as a result of the accident will consolidate international respect for this country's anti-nuclear stand.

There can be no going back for New Zealand. By the end of the year its "world first" anti-nuclear legislation will be on the statute books. All that is left to do, really, is dot i's and cross t's.

Indeed, suggestions in some diplomatic quarters that New Zealand and, in particular, Prime Minister Lange, might yet water down the legislation enough to allow port visits by warships of nuclear powers on a "neither confirm nor deny basis" is simply wishful thinking. In a sense, too, the ANZUS row is now over. All the viewpoints have been canvassed at length, to the point that some of the latest claims and counterclaims between Washington and Wellington is simply recycled rhetoric.

That is not to argue that the heat has gone out of the ANZUS dispute. Neither is it an unimportant sideshow. The United States may well initiate moves to expel New Zealand from ANZUS. However, if it does, the process will take more than a year to achieve, and it remains far from established that it will get the required support of Australia, the third member of the ANZUS treaty.

Instead, what will happen will be no more than what has already happened: The United States will continue to display a degree of displeasure but — optimistic as I am — will gradually come to accept the New Zealand initiative as not only sensible in the context of New Zealand's unique South Pacific world view but a positive contribution to Western values and interests.

More proof of Mr Lange's personel commitment to Labour's anti-nuclear stand will come later this month, when he visits Europe. As this newspaper reported weeks ago, it was always intended that the visit to countries such as Sweden and West Germany would be used to highlight the nuclear policy. Chernobyl provides a ready-made platform.

He is to deliver a major speech to the Sixth World Congress of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War in West Germany. True, the Cheronbyl disaster was to a power station — and not the result of using nuclear weapons — but connections can obviously be made. An anti-communist cynic might wonder whether the radiation cloud over Western Europe constituted a warlike act of aggression! In such an emotive anti-nuclear climate Mr Lange cannot lose during his forthcoming trip to Europe.

A recent visit to New Zealand by a high-powered delegation from Japan's Socialist Party, including its leader, showed how hungry some politicians are for global leadership on the anti-nuclear issue. Japan's socialists are using the slogan "Follow New Zealand" at upcoming elections. While they have little hope of defeating the ruling Liberal Party, the socialists are the main opposition group and have a following of millions.

New Zealand's attraction on this issue appears to be two-fold. While some other countries, including super powers like the United States, Britain, China and France, have politicians who espouse anti-nuclear viewpoints, only New Zealand has gone the extra step to put its objecitons into legislative form. Unlike Japan, Sweden, Greece, Australia and some other middle-ranked powers whose governments were elected on anti-nuclear policies, New Zealand has not backtracked but is proceeding with its promise.

The second main reason New Zealand is commanding interest overseas on the anti-nuclear policy has to do with the row that it has generated with the United States, and the implications for the collective Western alliance. There is a growing perception of New Zealand as an independent nation, and not simply a colonial appendage of Britain and/or the United States.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Merwyn Norrish touched on this last aspect in a recent speech: "New Zealand has arrived at the point where it is prepared to say to a valued friend, a powerful ally,

'This is how we propose to run our affairs; it is a bit different from before; but we believe you should be willing to fit in.' "

The US had not found it easy to respond positively. Indeed, for reasons which had more to do with its relations with other countries than with New Zealand, it had displayed a degree of displeasure, he noted. "But New Zealand has stood firm. And when the dispute comes to be viewed in its proper perspective, I think its true significance to New Zealand will be seen to lie in New Zealand initiative, rather than the American response.

"Whatever you may think of the ship visits policy on its own, we are moving into a rather new stand on defence and security issues which takes account of present-day realities here in the South Pacific," suggested Mr Norrish. "I believe that is a sensible course for New Zealand to take. Not only that, but it is in the present Western interest as well. Over time, the Americans and our other friends will no doubt come to accept that is so.

"New Zealand must now make its own way in the world. But that is not to say that we will willingly see traditional friendships lapse — only that we have moved beyond the colonial mentality that would make our own best interests subordinate to those friendships."

Mr Norrish's comments were in the context of arguing that New Zealand psychologically had finally achieved a distinct foreign policy because economically it was now no longer a colony. It is a viewpoint that has relevance to the rural crises.

In the last 25 years, New Zealand has dramatically diversified its trade away from dependence on a single market. In 1960, some 92 percent of exports went to Britain and other developed OECD nations. Last year, they took 67 percent, with Britain's share less than 10 percent against more than half 25 years ago.

You can't expect independent political relationships to blossom on the one hand, when in a position of chronic economic dependence on the other. Or as Mr Norrish puts it, "In the last few years we have just about broken out of the 'colonial' economic mould. It is a shift that has led us also to adjust our foreign policies."

Similarly, the growth to nationhood is reflected in the development of new products as well as many new markets. In the wake of the rural march on Parliament last week, government ministers conceded that farming was now facing its most difficult financial crises in 50 years. Fity years ago, such an admission would have been a sign of the whole country being in a deep recession or depression, such was New Zealand's total dependence on a few agricultural products. That is plainly not the case now.

This new and diverse economic reality, therefore, can serve to explain and link both the "pain" in the rural sector — it no longer dictates the New Zealand lifestyle — and also why New Zealand's foreign policy has broken out of the colonial straitjacket so dramatically.

Maybe the pendulum and pace of change has swung too far, too quickly in a new direction. Maybe not. It is still too early to say. Rogernomics and the new foreign policy has not yet been sealed in place, let alone given a fair try. There is still more than a year to the next election.

But one point is certain. Diplomats and commentators are on a fruitless search by analysing every line of Mr Lange's lengthy post-cabinet press conference transcripts for hints of how the ban on port visits by US and British warships might be resolved.

Resolving the impasse depends less on what New Zealand does to change the antinuclear legislation than on what the US and UK do to send ships which are clearly non-nuclear.

For example, last week it was well publicised that Mr Lange noted that China (a nuclear power and one which doesn't have anti-nuclear legislation) was accepting a visit by two British warships, and the UK had acknowledged the Chinese "no nuclear" policy for visiting foreign vessels. The inference Mr Lange was obviously leaving was that if Britain could declare its "no nukes" intentions before visiting China, then perhaps it could also do so when wanting a warship to visit here. Also, if Britain could relax its policy, it might make it easier for the US to do so.

In other words, Mr Lange was not indicating a new initiative. He was saying it is over to the UK and US to disclose there are no nukes involved. More significantly, Mr Lange was at pains to say that while New Zealand could modify the legislation to help Britain and America over problems of disclosure he was emphatic on one point: "We are inflexible on the subject of having nuclear weapons in New Zealand. We are not seeking to have trouble but we want to have our nuclear-free position. We are not going to withdraw the legislation." There were no circumstances in which the government would be prepared to withdraw the legislation. And so on...

The one development in recent weeks has in fact been by the United States. In a radio interview a State Department deputy secretary, James Lilley, signalled an acceptance that the legislation would be passed. How adverse it will be seemed to be the new critical issue. However, the next day an unnamed State Department source was back to the earlier position; any legislation and the US will press ahead and expel New Zealand from ANZUS.

Take your pick. It is always difficult to read signals from Washington, as difficult perhaps as some diplomats and others have in untangling the thoughts of Mr Lange.

The US has not (yet) made official submissions to have the legislation changed, but numerous New Zealand interest groups (representing thousands of Labour votes) have. Overwhelmingly they have called for the anti-nuclear clauses to be strengthened. Like it or not, New Zealand's foreign policy is set on a new path, which even a change of government may not be able to greatly alter.

PHILIPPINES

Commission Says Chernobyl Fallout Not Health Hazard

BK130515 Manila PNA in English 0419 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 13 (PNA) — The Philippine Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) Tuesday [13 May] assured the public that the minimal level of radioactive fallout that entered the Philippine environment posed no health danger. PAEC commissioner Manuel Eugenio said traces of minimal amount of cesium 137 and iodine 131 in air samples that were detected earlier by the PAEC environmental monitoring team following the nuclear accident in Chernobyl, Soviet Union, are not alarming.

He said the amount of cesium 137 that was detected is still permissible within the maximum concentration of 2,000 picocurie per cubic meter in the air. Iodine 131, Eugenio said, reached one picocurie per cubic meter compared to maximum permissible concentration of 100 picocurie in the air. Cesium 137 and iodine 131 are used by scientists for radiation measurement of the atmospheric condition.

He said prior to the Chernobyl accident, the specific activity of iodine 131 observed in the air was zero. He said direct radiation measurement over the weekend showed that the explosure dose rate decreased by one microentgens per hour.

As part of its fallout monitoring program, Eugenio said, the PAEC will now include rainwater, drinking water, soil, grass and agricultural products for specific radionuclei analysis.

QATAR

University Studies Show No 'Abnormal' Radiation

GF121644 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] Doha, 12 May (WAKH) — The outcome of studies made by Qatar University's scientific and applied research centre showed that state of Qatar is free from any abnormal radiation.

A statement issued by the centre today said it is unlikely that radioactive dust reached Qatar's atmosphere and if such a dust arrives it would leave very weak radioactivity, QNA reported. Tests made until this morning showed radiation levels remained the same as those of last year, the statement said.

SAUDI ARABIA

Ministry Bans Food Imports From West Europe

GF130544 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1150 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Riyadh, 12 May (SPA) — The Commerce Ministry has issued an order to ban the import of all kinds of frozen meat, vegetables, fresh fruits, and milk from West European countries. Citing a responsible source at the Commerce Ministry, Saudi papers reported today that this ban, which was implemented on Tuesday [13 May], will last for 1 week. The source added that this is to protect the Kingdom's citizens and residents from the traces of nuclear reactor radiation from the Soviet Chernobyl reactor. The ban period will be subject to an extension for another period if it becomes evident that the dangers have been eliminated and that the banned products do not contain any nuclear radiation.

TAIWAN

Premier Yu Seeks Chernobyl Report, Safety Assurance

OW121117 Taipei CHINA POST in English 9 May 86 p 12

[Text] Premier Yu Kuo-hwa yesterday urged the Atomic Energy Council (AEC) to take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of domestic nuclear power plants as the problem has concerned the people.

Many foreign countries have used nuclear energy to generate electricity, he said. To prevent and defend against possible safety problems which might occur in neighboring countries, the AEC should also work out concrete measures soon, he said.

Yu asked the AEC to collect more information concerning the accident at the Soviet Union's Chernobyl nuclear power plant and compile a complete report. Premier Yu gave the directives at the Executive Yuan meeting after hearing a report from the AEC on the accident in the Soviet Union.

The AEC, in its report, pointed out that the facilities at the Chernobyl plant lack containment and safety devices the nuclear power plants in Western countries and Japan have, so no similar accidents will occur in those countries. The AEC said it has notified personnel at domestic nuclear power plants to observe all operational rules and dispatch specialists to supervise.

WESTERN PACIFIC

AFP Sums Up Asian Reaction to Chernobyl Accident

HK130813 Hong Kong AFP in English 0748 GMT 13 May 86

[By Peter Mackler]

[Text] [No place-name as received] May 13 (AFP) — Several Asian nations are taking hard looks at their own atomic futures while keeping a close eye on fallout from last month's nuclear power-plant accident in the Soviet Union.

Taiwan has put off construction of its fourth nuclear plant for at least two years while Indonesian authorities pondered whether to go ahead with their first.

The April 26 disaster at Chernobyl probably dealt the coup de grace to the Philippines' only nuclear facility, a 2.1 billion dollar white elephant that had been kept closed because of cost problems and safety concerns.

"In the wake of the Chernobyl tragedy it seems impossible now to operate the plant, as a practical matter," said government spokesman Rene Saguisag. The options under consideration are to mothball the U.S.-built plant on the Bataan Peninsula indefi-

nitely, sell its equipment abroad, or convert it into a conventional power generating unit, Mr. Saguisag said.

Chernobyl has forced India to reconsider an eight-year-old Soviet proposal to build an atomic power station using enriched uranium with light-water, graphite-moderated systems, reliable sources said.

Pressure was also mounting on other governments to burn their nuclear bridges.

The 4.5-million member General Council of Trade Unions of Japan joined with Japanese pacifist groups on April 30 to urge that all nuclear power plants in the country suspend operations after the Chernobyl accident.

Anti-nuclear groups in Hong Kong launched a campaign to pull out of a joint venture with China to build a nuclear power plant 50 kilometers (30 miles) to the north of [the] bustling colony.

They planned to petition local officials Wednesday and start a signature campaign later this month to block the long-planned Daya Bay project, which would be China's first major atomic plant.

In Australia, which has a quarter of the world's known uranium reserves but no atomic power plants, concern over Chernobyl has prompted new calls for the closure of two small scientific nuclear reactors on Sydney's outskirts.

Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden called for the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna to impose emergency procedures in the case of accidents. "Nations with nuclear reactors should have international legal obligations in these areas," he said.

South Australian Premier John Bannon also said his government would not allow any uranium to be exported to the Soviet Union because of the lack of adequate safeguards. But some countries said that the Chernobyl drama would have no effect on their own nuclear programs.

While voicing concern, China said it intended to go ahead with Daya Bay as well as other units to be built near the eastern port city of Shanghai, home to some 12 million people. Peking did not even cancel plans to send a team to the Soviet Union to study nuclear cooperation.

A nuclear energy official said China was using a pressurised-water system to cool its reactors, which was safer than the graphite used at Chernobyl. "The accident caused no panic among Chinese experts," he said.

Authorities in South Korea came to the same conclusion after a radiation-protection committee within the Science and Technology Ministry carried out security checks on the nation's five nuclear reactors. The Energy and Resources Ministry said that despite the Soviet accident, South Korea would go ahead with the planned construction of two additional nuclear power plants.

Officials of Japan's Science and Technology Agency said they too saw no need to change their nuclear-power program since their reactors were different from the one at Chernobyl. Japan has 32 atomic power plants on stream.

In Jakarta, nuclear-energy officials were optimistic that a scheduled June 3 meeting of seven ministers and experts would approve their plans to build the country's first nuclear power plant at Serpond, West Java.

Indonesia is counting on nuclear power to provide a third of its electricity by 2005. Officials brushed aside suggestions by anti-nuclear groups that they opt for alternative sources of energy. "They recommend solar, wind, water or biomass. It's ridiculous," said Jali Ahimsa, director of the Indonesian Atomic Agency. "If you want to industrialise Java, with a population of more than 100 million, you need a huge quantity of energy that you can only get with coal and nuclear."

Asians were still nervous, however, about radioactive fallout from the Chernobyl accident.

Reports last week that radioactive iodine had been found in domestically produced milk sent shock waves through Japan. Its nuclear pollution detection posts are on full alert and its meteorological agency says it is swamped daily with questions about local levels of radioactivity.

Any arrivals from the Soviet Union are carefully checked at Japanese airports.

Singapore's Environment Ministry said that it was regularly collecting and testing dust samples, but there had been no abnormal readings so far. "All meat, milk and other farm produce, such as fruits and vegetables, imported from Eastern and Western European countries will be tested for radioactive contaminants before they are allowed for sale to the public," the ministry said.

Malaysian health officials have also been monitoring the environment and checking food imports. They said that all ships from the Soviet Union and other countries affected by Chernobyl fallout would be closely inspected when they docked at Malaysian ports.